MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held separate meetings with the amir of Kuwait in connection with the forthcoming Arab summit conference, according to reports by KUNA and Kuwait radio. While asserting that 'Arafat's talks with Jordanian King Husayn produced "practical results," sources in the PLO leader's entourage confirmed the existence of PLO-Jordanian differences centering on President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported. With the support of the PLO Executive Committee, 'Arafat told Husayn that the Fes summit resolutions are "the minimum" the PLO is prepared to accept, the sources added. In a statement in Kuwait reported by KUNA, PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh urged the forthcoming summit conference to adopt a united Arab stand toward the Reagan plan rather than to try to find points of identity or congruence with U.S. policy. The aim of the summit must be the advancement of the Fes resolutions and not their withdrawal, he stressed.

Commenting on the 'Arafat-Husayn talks, the Amman daily AD-DUSTUR emphasized the need to avoid delay and said Jordan is "impatient" to resume talks with the PLO, Amman radio reported. A Riyadh radio commentary said Arab leaders who realize the importance of the time factor will "exploit every positive sign" to benefit their cause. Riyadh expressed optimism that the PLO leader's current diplomacy will give impetus toward a united Arab stand. 'Arafat and Husayn have agreed to delay their response to the Reagan plan pending the outcome of further Palestinian and Arab meetings, the radio said.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The emergency Arab summit will be postponed from mid-April to the end of the month in order to assess the results of visits by Moroccan envoys to Arab countries, KUNA revealed citing Arab diplomatic sources in Rabat. According to a related report in the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN, a number of countries requested the summit's postponement in order to hold further contacts among themselves. Meanwhile, a Moroccan envoy arrived in Khartoum with a message on the summit for Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, SUNA reported. Later, Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta arrived in Damascus to deliver a message from King Hassan II to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the current Arab situation, Damascus radio announced.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- A 5 April attack on an IDF patrol near 'Ayn Zhalta in the eastern Ash-Shuf area was mounted by a "terrorist" squad operating from Syrian-controlled territory, Jerusalem radio reported. Two Israelis were wounded in the incident. In a separate development Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported renewed Druze-Christian clashes near 'Alayh.

Cheysson Visit -- French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson arrived in Beirut to meet with senior Lebanese officials and preside over a meeting of French ambassadors in the Middle East, Beirut radio reported.

Saudi Comment on Talks -- The Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH said the latest Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks were the only round since the opening round in which a feeling of optimism prevailed regarding the possibility of reaching an agreement soon, according to Riyadh radio. The latest negotiations were "positive and serious" because of the U.S. decision to suspend the delivery of F-16 aircraft to Israel pending the latter's withdrawal from Lebanon, the paper affirmed.

Israel

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Cabinet that President Reagan's announcement that the United States will not supply F-16's to Israel before the Israeli forces withdraw from Lebanon is intended "to pressure" Israel to moderate its position in the Lebanese negotiations and "to signal" King Husayn to join the peace process, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir said Israel "will not be pressed" when its security "is at stake" and added that Reagan's announcement and the link he made between the arms supply and U.S. policy in the region "has harmed" Israel.

Syria

The USSR has informed certain Arab circles that it is willing "to provide any assistance, including military intervention," in support of Syria or any other Arab state to confront any aggression committed against these states if the Arabs request it, the London magazine AL-MAJALLAH reported citing "highly placed" Arab sources.

Egypt

Ghali's Visit to France -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali met with French President Francois Mitterrand and handed him a message from President Husni Mubarak dealing with the Middle East situation, MENA reported. Ghali expressed the belief that Egypt and France agree on the importance of activating the peace process to achieve a solution to the Middle East crisis, MENA added.

Mubarak's Asian Tour -- President Mubarak met with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to discuss the Middle East situation as well as bilateral economic and technological cooperation, according to a statement by Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali reported by Cairo radio

Iran-Iraq Conflict

A Kuwait envoy arrived in Moscow with a message from Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah to Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov on the Iran-Iraq war, KUNA reported. The envoy said Kuwait is "certain" that the USSR will cooperate with other permanent members of the UN Security Council to stop the war, KUNA added.

Iraq

Iraqi Muslim "mujahidin" opposed to President Saddam Husayn's regime claimed responsibility for a recent bomb explosion at the Ba'th Party's Al-Hurriyah Publication Center, IRNA reported citing a mujahidin spokesman in Tehran.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT TO VISIT RIYADH BEFORE RETURN TO AMMAN

LD061812 Kuwait KUNA in English 1706 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 6 (KUNA) -- The Palestinian news agency "WAFA" reported Wednesday that Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently visiting Kuwait, will proceed Wednesday afternoon to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia before heading back for Amman to resume talks with King Husayn of Jordan.

WAFA added that 'Arafat, who arrived in Kuwait Tuesday morning, attended a meeting the same evening of the Fatah Central Committee which discussed the Palestinian-Jordanian talks and the future Palestinian moves on all levels.

The Palestinian agency reiterated Wednesday that Chairman 'Arafat said on arrival in Kuwait Tuesday that "there are no obstacles which hinder reaching an accord with Jordan," but did not hint at waht mission he has in Saudi Arabia prior to his return to Amman.

WAFA added, though, that the PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi and PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad will (?proceed to) Baghdad to convey a message from 'Arafat to President Saddam Husayn on his recent talks with King Husayn of Jordan.

'ARAFAT INTERVIEWED BY IRAQI MAGAZINE ALIF BA'

JN061010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that President Saddam Husayn is anxious to continue Iraq's -- government's and people's -- support for the Palestinian stand. In an exclusive interview with the magazine ALIF BA' published here today, 'Arafat said that he is aware of the noble and solid stand that Iraq is adopting toward the question of the Palestinian people and the struggle of the Palestinian revolutionaries on all levels.

On the contacts he had during his recent visit to Baghdad, 'Arafat noted that he had lengthy discussions with Iraqi officials on the Arab seven-member committee's work and the results produced so far by the committee's visits and the rapid developments in the Arab region, including the conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the ugly crimes being committed by the Zionist gangs there. 'Arafat added that the talks also dealt with the Iraqi-Palestinian relations, the entire Arab and international situation, and the Iraq-Iran war.

Within the context of his interview with ALIF BA', Yasir 'Arafat added that the Palestinian people in the occupied territories are subjected not only to a slaughter campaign but to genocide. It has been irrevocably confirmed, 'Arafat said, that the mass poisoning campaign is aimed at causing sterilization.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman addressed an appeal to every free conscience and to every humanitarian in the world to take effective and decisive measures to end this crime of annihilation of a people to which the Zionist criminals have resorted after their utter failure in facing the Palestinian heroes in Beirut.

ALGIERS VOP ON FATAH CC MEETING IN KUWAIT

LD061902 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, presided over a Fatah Central Committee meeting in Kuwait last night that lasted until dawn today during which discussions dealt with the results of the Amman talks, what these could lead to, and future Palestinian moves.

Palestinian sources accompanying brother commander Abu Ammar affirmed that the Amman talks produced practical results and that differences center on Reagan's initiative. The sources added that, with the support of the PLO Executive Committee, 'Arafat insisted that the Arab Fes plan is the minimum the Palestinian revolution is prepared to accept. The sources said the Fes plan is the one acceptable to the Arab countries and that for this reason Brother 'Arafat demanded that an Arab summit conference be held to discuss the Palestinian and Jordanian stands.

It is noteworthy that this Fatah meeting is the second Central Committee meeting in Kuwait during the past 4 months. The first meeting was held early in January.

A PLO spokesman has denied the existence of any differences within the PLO Executive Committee over the Amman talks.

AL-WATAN: ARAB SUMMIT TO BE HELD LATE APRIL

GF061530 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 5 Apr 83 pp 1, 15

['Amid ash-Shanti dispatch]

[Text] AL-WATAN has learned from a high-ranking source that the Arab summit conference will be held in late April and not in the middle of the month as announced earlier. The sources added that a number of countries requested postponment of the proposed date until late April or early May in order to hold further contacts among themselves.

These sources stressed that Syria informed a number of countries that it does not approve a new Arab summit of either a comprehensive nature or one restricted to the members of the seven-member committee, but it requested postponment of the summit to a date to be agreed upon later.

A high-ranking Palestinian source noted that the request made by Yasir 'Arafat to the PLO Executive Committee members and to the secretariat of the office of the PNC was designed to inform them of the results of the talks -- which did lead to any agreement -- which he held with the Jordanian monarch.

AL-WATAN has learned that a Soviet envoy who holds the post of chairman of the Middle East affairs department will visit Damascus and 'Amman this week. It learned that the Soviet envoy will present answers to the questions presented by the seven-member committee which the Jordanian monarch led to Moscow. The sources added that the Soviets have set a new conception of their moves and that they promised the committee to formulate their country's plans of action after completion of a comprehensive study of all sides of the issue.

These sources indicated that the deteriorating U.S.-Soviet relations will make it difficult for them to work together to solve the Middle East issue. It is expected that the Soviets will ask to have the issue discussed in the UN Security Council again, but this also entails coordination of stances with the United States so that it does not veto any resolution.

'ABD RABBUH VIEWS AIMS OF COMING ARAB SUMMIT

LD061538 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (KUNA) -- PLO Executive Committee member Mr Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh has called on the coming Arab summit conference to adopt a united Arab stand on U.S. President Reagan's plan and on U.S. Middle East policy as a whole. In a brief interview with KUNA after his arrival here today, he said he will not accept any amendments to the Arab peace plan, especially if they are linked with the basic rights of the Palestinian people. He said that the coming summit is required to advance the resolutions of the Fes summit and not to take them backward.

He expressed the hope that the results of the summit will not lead to changing the Fes resolutions but to asserting them. He also hoped that the summit will review the results of the meetings of the Arab seven-member committee which visited the capitals of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the stances of the great powers which were evinced during the visit to the capitals of these states, as well as the fact that those meetings showed that the United States completely rejects the bases which were (?laid down) by the Fes summit, replacing them with the Reagan plan, which the Palestine National Council deemed inappropriate as a basis for a just solution to the Palestine and Middle East questions.

He added that we shall therefore call on the coming Arab summit to adopt a united Arab stand on this American policy and not to try and find points of identity or congruence with this policy which will essentially remain a policy hostile to us and to our rights. This is what we are hoping from the Arab summit.

Referring to the organization's attitude to the future of the negotiations with Jordan, should the report that King Husayn of Jordan is to visit Cairo prove to be true, Mr 'Abd Rabbuh referred to Jordan's official denial of these reports, adding that such meetings, should they take place, do not conform with the unanimous nature of Arab solutions. Naturally [words indistinct] any Arab side would (?harm) the Arab struggle by diverging from these unanimous resolutions. He stressed that he would not accept any amendments to the provisions of the Arab peace plan which was approved by the Fes summit, particularly if such amendments touch on the basic rights of the Palestinians, namely the independent Palestinian state and the PLO's sole representation of the Palestinian people on an equal footing with any other partner, at any international conference or any form of peace negotiations in the region. These two issues, the independent state and PLO representation, are not a subject for compromise or [word indistinct]. For this reason the Palestinians believe that the Fes summit resolutions are based on these two pillars, the absence of either of which would torpedo the Fes summit resolutions. Hence, we stress that if a new Arab summit is required to be convened, the aim of this summit must be the advancement of the Fes summit resolutions and not their withdrawal.

AL-KLALIJ ON EFFORTS TO END IRAN-IRAQ WAR

GF061430 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 6 Apr 83 p 1, 14

[Excerpt] Arab sources have told AL-KHALIJ that secret contacts are still being made among a number of Arab countries concerned about the Iraq-Iran war in order to reach to a peaceful solution to end the war. The sources said that a Libyan personality who is close to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has visited Riyadh, Tehran, and Damascus with the intention of reaching an agreement in order to end the war. Two other Arab envoys have visited the Iranian capital and proposed the possibility of ending the war through a meeting between the two warring sides at the negotiating table with the participation of Libya, Syria, and Saudi Arabia.

The sources said the Libyan-Saudi contacts affirmed the importance of the agreement as soon as possible to insure a stance that can end the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran.

The sources said that Tehran agreed in principle to receive $75 billion as compensation for its losses during the war. It has not been who will pay the amount, although it is expected that the sum will be paid by the Arab countries.

The sources said Iran was obstinate on its stance, but Syria's and Libya's involvement in the issue made Iran more flexible because it was afraid to lose the arms supplied by its Syrian and Libyan allies.

The sources said Iraq, which is closely observing this mediation, may not object to it. They said that the Libyan-Saudi contacts and the Syrian-Libyan contacts have progressed and that rapid efforts are being exerted to fix the date of the Arab mediatiors' meeting with the warring sides. The sources expect the meeting to be held in an Arab Gulf country instead of a European country, as it was believed at the beginning of the contacts.

ICO URGES CONFRONTATION OF 'ZIONIST PLANS'

LD242030 Riyadh SPA in English 1919 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Jidda, April 4, SPA -- The Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) today called on Islamic states to take a firm stand to confront what it called the Zionists' plans to demolish mosques and holy shrines in Jerusalem and occupied territory. In a statement, the OCO appealed to international organisations and all peace-loving people to "adopt positive measures to encounter the Zionist threats.

"The Zionist criminals' hand has extended once again to Islamic shrines in an obvious attempt to change the original Islamic status of these places and force Arab citizens through arbitrary acts and oppression to leave their land for the Zionists to complete the Israeli settlements network besieging Palestinain cities and towns," it said.

The statement said the attacks on Islamic sacred shrines and the poisoning of girl students were in harmony with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's plans to "foil all peace efforts." It underlined the importance of solidarity and joint action to counter challenges facing the Islamic nation.

GULF AFFAIRS

DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE ON OIL SLICK PROBLEM

LD061854 Kuwait KUNA in English 1601 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 6 (KUNA) -- The heads of the eight Gulf delegations continued consultations here Wednesday to prepare for the meeting of the ministerial council of the Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment scheduled to discuss means for fighting the oil slick resulting from the damaged Iranian Nowruz oil field.

Sources of the organization said that the heads of delegations who represent Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and Iran will hold their first meeting Thursday morning.

The Kuwaiti minister of health, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi, who is the acting executive secretary general of the organization, told reporters that the issue of oil slick is still in need for extensive contacts with the parties concerned. He referred to meeting held with the representatives of Iraq and Iran with the aim of bridging the gap between their viewpoints toward the working plan to be adopted by the organization for capping the damaged oil wells and for clearing the Gulf waters in general. He explained saying that those meetings had achieved improvement and expressed hopes that all problems would be overcome "if there are good intentions and if the environmental dimensions are taken into consideration."

'Awadi denied that there are problems blocking the activities of the ministerial council of the organization, but he said there are different viewpoints and expressed belief that those viewpoints began to come closer and hoped that the meeting would be held Thursday morning.

Dr 'Awadi affirmed that "the meeting would not be closed before a solution for the problem is reached" and said "we are now discussing the problem and the meeting is convening and no obstacle is facing it."

'Awadi denied the existence of obstacles facing the meeting and said "we think that we have to put forward all prospects necessary to facilitate reaching an agreement."

He added that what is required is only continuous contacts saying that "concentration is being given to all problems, particularly capping the damaged oil wells, which should be succeeded by an all-out plan for fighting pollution in accordance to a technical plan." The Kuwaiti minister said that the plan would be hammered out with the cooperation of the countries of the region and the supervision of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment.

'Awadi said that the meeting held in Bahrain in the past two days was aimed at defining the problem from the technical point of view and that recommendations were adopted on the problem and the means for fighting the pollution in general. He went on saying "we have laid down the main points and the working plan would be reached by the organization and not by any other side." He added that the organization would put its prospects on the problem which it hoped would be agreeable for all parties and by Iraq and Iran.

The meeting was originally scheduled for Wednesday noon but was postponed for Wednesday evening. then was again adjourned for Thursday morning for more consultations.

BAHRAIN

OIL FROM GULF SPILL HITS BAHRAINI BEACHES

GF070440 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 7-8 Apr 83 p 1

[By Mike Holland]

[Excerpt] Oil last night hit the beaches of Bahrain over more than a kilometre near Al-Hadd on Muharraq Island.

Oil experts were also asked to check other beaches in the area not far from the airport.

Thick pools of heavy, black, tarry, crude lined the high water line along the beach parallel to Asry causeway.

Pollution expert Walter Vreeland, who is with Bahrain's environmental protection committee, said the oil had probably come from the now dispersed slick that had threatened Bahrain a week ago.

And he predicted that more could come ashore at any time, possibly in greater quantities.

Mr Vreeland said the beached oil was old and could possibly be part of the first crude that gushed from the blown Nowruz field at the beginning of February.

AMIR RECEIVES MOROCCAN KING'S MESSAGE

GF070900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 7 Apr (WAKH) -- The Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, has received a letter from King Hassan II of Morocco containing an invitation to the emergency Arab summit conference to be held in Rabat this month. The letter was delivered by Ahmad Ben Souda, the Moroccan monarch's adviser, when he was received by the amir in Manama this morning. The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifa Al Khalifah, minister of the interior; Yusuf Rahmah ad-Dawsari, chief of the amir's office; and Mohamed an-Naciri, Morocco's ambassador to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

'ARAFAT ACTIVITIES IN KUWAIT REPORTED

Meeting With Amir

LD061044 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] At 1100 his highness [the amir of Kuwait] received Yasir 'Arafat and the accompanying delegation on the occasion of their visit to the country. The meeting was attended by the minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs and the director of the PLO office in Kuwait.

Confers With Prime Minister

LD061036 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] At 1130 today the heir apparent, Prime Minister Shaykh S'ad al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, received in his office PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and an accompanying delegation, on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by deputy prime minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Information Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ahmad Sa'd al-Jasir, and the director of the PLO office in Kuwait.

Departure Scheduled

LD070828 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0754 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 7 Apr (KUNA) -- PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is expected to leave Kuwait today for Riyadh, after presiding over meetings of the Palestinian leadership that went on for 2 successive days. The meetings, which were described as being decisive, were shrouded with secrecy and no official statement has been issued. However, Palestinian sources closely connected with the Palestinian leadership said that discussions concentrated on the consultations that the Palestinian leader recently held with King Husayn of Jordan in Amman.

OFFICIAL EXPLAINS MESSAGE TO SOVIET LEADER

LD061220 Kuwait KUNA in English 0741 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, April 6 (KUNA) -- Kuwait's Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Rashid ar-Rashid arrived here Tuesday night with a message from His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah to the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov on the Iraq-Iran war. Ar-Rashid was received on arrival by the Kuwaiti envoy to Moscow and members of the embassy along with the head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who is to be the new ambassador to Kuwait, a representative of the Council of Ministers and a number of officials.

The undersecretary told KUNA "our relations with the Soviet Union are back dated 20 years which indicates that they maintained satisfactory links." The message tackles bilateral relations and the situation in the Gulf region, he said, adding that the most important development being the Iraq-Iranian war.

Ar-Rashid described the Gulf war as between neighbors and added "we all hope that it would end". "We are sure that the Soviet Union will shoulder its role as a permanent member of the Security Council and would cooperate with other members to stop this war", the Kuwaiti diplomat said and expressed confidence that Moscow shares the same opinion for the sake of peace in the Gulf and the world at large. "We also hope that the same spirit would prevail when finding a suitable and just solution to our basic concern namely the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question", Ar-Rashid stressed.

The undersecretary stated that Israeli recent aggression and the Zionist enemy's occupation of Lebanon and other Arab lands will be further debated. These ongoing developments call for consultation with our friends including the Soviet Union and others to reach a settlement that would attain peace in the region that will, in its turn, strengthen global peace, the Kuwaiti official concluded.

Rashid ar-Rashid will convey the message later today to First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Markovich Korniyenko.

Discussions during the meeting are expected to cover bilateral issues in addition to world problems of mutual concern.

GULF WAR INITIATIVE TO IMPLEMENT GCC DECISION

GF061000 Doha QNA in Arabic 0948 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 6 Apr (QNA) -- Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has stated that the Kuwait international initiative to end the Iraq-Iran war was taken in implementation of a GCC decision in that regard.

In a telephone statement to the newspaper AL-KHALIJ published here today, the Kuwaiti minister said the GCC countries realize the danger of the continuation of this war and the necessity of moving internationally to put an end to it, now that Iraq has returned to its international borders. The minister added that Iran should forego its previous conditions and both sides should face each other at the negotiating table. He said this in itself requires international participation and in that context, the Kuwait initiative was taken.

The Kuwaiti minister denied that he has information on contacts being made by other Arab countries in order to reach a peaceful solution to the war. He said the Kuwaiti envoys left for visits to the UN Security Council permanent members to deliver letters from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, the amir of Kuwait, and inform them of Kuwait's and the Arab Gulf countries' view on the necessity of stopping the bloodshed and drain of the resources of the two Muslim neighbor countries. The minister noted that sending Kuwaiti delegations to Baghdad and Tehran is not contemplated at the present time.

BRIEFS

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR -- KUNA has learned that the Kuwaiti Government has informed the Soviet Government of its approval of the nomination of Pavel Akopov as the new Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait to succeed Nikolay Sikachev. [Excerpt] [Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 2 Apr 83 p 2 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

RIYADH: 'ARAFAT TOUR 'IMPORTANT,' 'DISTINCTIVE'

LD061515 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Analysis by 'Abdallah Sulayman al-Khurayyif]

[Text] Within a framework of new Palestinian moves, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Kuwait from Amman yesterday at the start of a tour of some capitals of the region. This tour is important in view of the delicate present stage through which the Arab nation is going and because it comes in the wake of lengthy talks between 'Arafat and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. Moreover it is important because it comes in the midst of talks between the two men who have decided to complete them on 'Arafat's return to Amman.

What is more important about this tour is that its purpose is to acquaint Arab leaders with the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and their outcome on the developments of the situation in the Middle East and the means of reaching the ideal solution to problems of the region. The second important point is the Arab-Palestinian coordination that the situation requires before the extraordinary Arab summit is convened in Morocco this month.

However, what makes the Jordanian-Palestinian talks especially important and distinctive is the agreement to extend them and to complete them following 'Arafat's present tour. (?It appears) that the first part of these talks resulted in an agreement on the nature the joint Jordanian-Palestinian movement should have in the next stage in the Arab and international spheres. The framework of this agreement includes waiting before giving a reply to the U.S. Administration regarding U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan to establish peace in the Middle East region, in anticipation of the outcome of Palestinian consultations and the decisions adopted about them in the Arab meetings that about to be held.

Hence the PLO chairman's present tour is unique in comparison with the other visits of this nature and because it coincides with rapid developments linked with the Palestinian question in more than one arena. Moreover the PLO Executive Committee, having held a number of meetings and continuing the work of the Jordanian-Palestinian committee in Amman, gives the impression that this coincidence in timing indicates that the future actually will witness an Arab movement founded on a united stand toward what should be done without any langor to ensure the solution of the problem in a fair manner which includes restoring security and stability and establishing peace and making it last in a region that has been denied peace for about 80 years.

In any case, the new Palestinian movement, in addition to the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement, which has brought their cooperation up to the standard of events and according to the requirements of the time, definitely suggests that on the eve of the new summit of senior leaders, the Arab leaders who have become totally aware of the importance of the time factor will exploit every positive sign which can be added to benefit their fateful cause after they have made clear to the big powers, the permanent members of the Security Council who truly can make decision and affect actions, the intricacies of this question and their resolute determination to regain their legitimate rights, and have specified that this should take place without exposing world peace to danger into which Israel is dragging them relentlessly by its irresponsible excesses.

LEBANON-ISRAEL TALKS 'POSITIVE, SERIOUS'

LD070651 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-JAZIRAH said in its comment: It appears that the 26th round of negotiations between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy, with the participation of the United States, is the only round after the opening round in which a feeling of optimism prevailed regarding the possibility of reaching an agreement soon. This round of negotiations has been described as positive and serious. The reason is U.S. President Reagan's decision to suspend the delivery of 75 U.S.-made sophisticated military aircraft to the Israeli enemy unless the latter agrees to withdraw from Lebanese territory.

MUBARAK SENDS MESSAGES TO REAGAN, HUSAYN

NC071024 Cairo MENA in English 0850 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 (MENA) -- Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said he had sent an urgent message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Egypt's stance vis-a-vis the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and other contacts in this respect.

President Mubarak said during a press conference here today that he had also sent a message to King Husayn of Jordan within the context of continuous consultations between Egypt and Jordan. The Egyptian president added that he will also hold contacts with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Further on Mubarak Message

NC071106 Cairo MENA in English 0850 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 (MENA) -- Egyptian President Husni Mubarak sent an urgent message to President Ronald Reagan in which he urged the American President to exert all possible efforts to give impetus to the negotiations on the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon in the earliest possible time.

He also asked the U.S. President to give momentum to the peace talks in the Middle East and to facilitate the joining of Jordan and the Palestinians in the talks.

The message was delivered to the U.S. Ambassador to Japan by President Mubarak this afternoon.

AL-BAZ TO LEAVE FOR MEETING WITH KING HUSAYN

NC071018 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The Cairo radio team in Tokyo has learned that Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and head of the presidential office for political affairs, will leave Tokyo for Amman in the next few hours for an urgent meeting with King Husayn in the Jordanian capital connected with the situation in the Middle East, particularly the political developments in Lebanon.

Dr Usamah al-Baz told our radio team in Tokyo that if the need arises to go from Amman to Beirut, he may go there to meet with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. He said that contacts are under way in this context with President al-Jumayyil regarding the situation in Lebanon.

The radio team has also learned that President Mubarak's message to U.S. President Reagan was conveyed to the U.S. ambassador in Tokyo today. The message deals with the Lebanese question and the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

GHALI HANDS MUBARAK MESSAGE TO MITTERRAND

NC061754 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, 6 Apr (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met today with French President Francois Mitterrand. Following the meeting, Ghali said he handed the French president a message from President Husni Mubarak dealing with the Middle East crisis in its Lebanese and Palestinian aspects.

Ghali expressed the belief that the Egyptian and French views agree on the importance of activating the peace process with a view to an overall solution to the Middle East crisis.

Answering a question on his analysis of the Middle East situation, Ghali said he believes that Egypt is very concerned by the fact that the peace process has not been able to progress, neither in Lebanon nor regarding negotiations on the future of the Palestinian territories.

Answering a question on whether Egypt and France intend to reactivate their joint draft resolution in the UN Security Council, Ghali said the French-Egyptian resolution is still on the Security Council's agenda but Egypt and France have agreed not to reactivate the resolution for as long as there is a chance of the Reagan plan being implemented.

Answering a question on the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Ghali said: Our stand is firm. The Egyptian ambassador will not return to Israel as long as there is no solution to the Lebanese problem.

Ghali expressed Egypt's extreme concern over what has been happening in the West Bank since October 1978, when Egypt submitted a memorandum to then U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance demanding that measures be taken in the West Bank that would create an atmosphere of confidence among the Palestinians encouraging them to join the peace process.

He added: Regrettably, no progress has been made. We then submitted another memorandum on 13 October 1980. Since then, we have been urging the Israeli Government to take measures to create an atmosphere of confidence in the West Bank. Only an atmosphere of confidence can change the political atmosphere, enable the Palestinians to actively participate and give them hope of a better future.

To a question about the poisoning case in the West Bank, Dr Butrus Ghali replied: I cannot comment because I have no information on this subject.

Asked if he believes that the Egyptian-French dialogue and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson's visit to Beirut, which is to begin today, will produce new results in the coming days, Dr Butrus Ghali said: What we are doing is asking the United States, which is regarded as a full partner in all this process, to stimulate its diplomatic efforts to bring about an immediate withdrawal of the foreign forces from the Lebanese territories.

Dr Ghali denied the existence of direct dialogue with Israel on the problem of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon because Lebanon has not asked us to participate in this direct dialogue.

Asked if the contents of President Mubarak's letter to President Mitterrand are similar to the Egyptian president's letter to President Reagan, Dr Ghali said: They are two different letters because they are addressed to two different states.

'ALI INTERVIEWED ON RESULTS OF MUBARAK TOUR

NC061533 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 (MENA) -- Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed today that President Husni Mubarak's tour that has taken him so far to China, North Korea and Japan achieved its objectives and was successful in the political, economic facets, and also in the technical and cultural fields.

In an exclusive interview with MENA, Hasan 'Ali said that during the tour there was a full appreciation for Egypt's foreign policy and an agreement was reached on the necessity of an Israeli speedy withdrawal from Lebanon and also the pull-out of all the foreign forces from the Lebanese territory and the necessity of reaching a quick solution to the Palestinian cause.

He added that they agreed that time is a decisive factor in this conflict in the light of Israel's intensive building of its settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali also reviewed the results of President Husni Mubarak's visit to China, Korea and Japan and said that in Beijing, several agreements on technical cooperation in the field of agriculture were concluded with Egypt. He added that the trade protocol for 1983 was also concluded between China and Egypt.

He said that in Korea President Mubarak and Korean President Kim Il-song signed a joint cooperation agreement in the fields of agriculture, especially rice cultivation, ship building and technical and cultural exchange.

On the current visit of President Mubarak to Japan, Hasan 'Ali said that talks were successful and dealt with the Middle East situation, the Lebanese crisis, the Iraq-Iran war and the international problems in general.

Hasan 'Ali said that the Egyptian-Japanese talks will be resumed tomorrow at the foreign ministers level to continue discussing these issues in addition to bilateral relations and joint cooperation.

He pointed out that an agreement has been reached on forming a joint committee to discuss spheres of joint cooperation in the various fields, adding that a decision on forming this committee will be signed by Egyptian First Foreign Undersecretary Dr Usamah al-Baz and the acting director of the Middle East Department at the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

Hsan 'Ali ppinted out that during President Mubarak's visit here, an agreement has been reached on the projects to which Japan will contribute either through loans, grants or credit facilities.

The volume of loans and grants amounted approximately to $220 million while the volume of the credit facilities reached $250 million, he said, adding that the talks here dealt with a joint technical cooperation agreement that will be signed in Cairo in the future.

Concluding, he said that a joint communique on President Mubarak's visit will be released tomorrow.

MUBARAK INTERVIEWED BY MAY ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

PM070847 Cairo MAY in Arabic 4 Apr 83 p 4

[Interview with President Husni Mubarak by chief editor Sabri Abu al-Majd in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpts] In my exclusive interview with President Husni Mubarak we talked about his surprise visits to production locations.

President Husni Mubarak said: Through my surprise visits to production locations I wanted to see things as they normally are and to find out about problems and bottlenecks that hinder performance, execution, and increased production. The purpose of my surprise visits is to talk to officials in every production location, discuss things on the spot, see how the best solution for production problems can be achieved, and figure the best and most suitable ways to serve public interests. We are fighting a serious and hard battle in order to increase, develop, and improve production as well as to give it a strong impetus, particularly in the fields of agriculture and industry and especially in the field of food production.

The president then spoke at length about the aim of those surprise visits to work and production locations. He said: Through these visits I want to see everything as it actually is. I do not want to give any of the work managers the opportunity to project things that do not actually exist or to display things not as they normally are. For this reason I am careful that nobody knows the location I intend to visit and inspect work progress so that everything will be seen as it is normally, without embellishment or exaggeration. God willing, I will continue my surprise visits after returning from my Far East tour. In intend to launch a new program of surprise visits to production locations. I will also make surprise visits to locations I have already visited. This will give me the opportunity to find out about the results of my first visits and how far the proposals we put forward for solving work and production problems have been carried out.

I then moved the talk with President Husni Mubarak to the question of the National Democratic Party [NDP]. I told his excellency: You are one of the founders of the NDP and in the first elections to form a party base you were in the forefront of those whom the people elected unanimously in one of Shibin al-Kawm constituencies. You were also deputy leader of the party, then secretary general, and later the party unanimously elected you as its leader in succession to late President Anwar as-Sadat, may his soul rest in peace. Under your leadership the party has progressed toward a new era of development and presence throughout Egypt. Does Your Excellency have something to say about the party and to the party through MAY, the party paper?

The president said: After the NDP congress on 26 January 1982 we completed the organization of the party to the head of village level. The rest of this organization will be completed in the future. I have always been anxious to meet with the party leaders in order to discuss with them important domestic and foreign issues and to give impetus to party work.

I am glad that in the recent past the party has doubled its activities and concern with public problems, and the people for their party have responded to this concern by giving great support to the party.

If there is anything I have to say to the party masses through MAY, the party paper, it is to be an example for others in honesty and sincerity, for our aim is only to develop the straightforward man; and we seek only to serve the people.

The age of parties is not measured by the number of years but by their achievements. Although our party has realized commendable achievements we expect our party masses to give more and to make greater sacrifices as well as to double production in the service of this great people.

[Abu al-Majd] As an old party hand I was pleased by what I heard from President Mubarak about the NDP and his hopes to develop it further.

Uncontemplated Idea

I can say that what is being reiterated by some of those in the opposition that President Husni Mubarak will give up the party leadership is no more than dreams, that this question exists only in their own minds, and that this idea -- the mere idea -- is absolutely nonexistent and quite unlikely.

With regard to strengthening Arab relations President Mubarak said that Egypt and its Arab sisters have achieved a lot in this regard. President Mubarak told me: As you know, Egypt is one of the founding states of the Nonaligned Movement and we intend to maintain good relations with all the world states. We have special relations with certain states, including, for example, the United States. But these special relations can never influence our views on nonalignment or our role as a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement. We will never enter into any alliance or ever grant any foreign country bases in our country.

With regard to relations with the Soviet Union his excellency affirmed that there are no obstacles impeding these relations, and the time will come when we will resume these relations. The Soviet Union is a superpower that we cannot deny or ignore, and when we establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union they will be normal relations. We will deal with it like any other state without interference in our internal affairs.

[Abu al-Majd] I can say on the basis of my own information that no date has yet been fixed for the restoration of Egyptian-Soviet relations.

Western Europe

In his interview, President Husni Mubarak praised our relations with Western Europe. He assured me that with the passage of time Egyptian-Arab relations are growing stronger, particularly after the impetus they received at the New Delhi conference. He said that consultations on various issues take place between his excellency and most of the Arab kings and heads of state and that such consultations always achieve success.

'ALI STATEMENT AFTER MUBARAK-NAKASONE MEETING

NC061642 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today held a session of talks with Japanese Prime Minister Yashuhiro Nakasone. The talks were attended by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and presidential adviser for political affairs.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali made a statement to the radio mission in Tokyo after President Mubarak's meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone. He said: President Mubarak and the Japanese prime minister discussed the current situation in the Middle East. The president emphasized the need for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and that, without this withdrawal, the area will continue to revolve in a vicious circle. Nakasone shared President Mubarak's view on this and told the president that Japan desires the stabilization of the situation in the Middle East.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali added that President Mubarak also dealt with a number of subjects related to economic, commercial, and technological cooperation between the two countries. He said the Japanese side showed complete understanding of Egypt's needs in the domain of economic and technological cooperation between the two countries.

BUTRUS GHALI ON F-16 DEAL, LEBANON WITHDRAWAL TIE

GF061426 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 5 Apr 83 p 1, 10

[Ahmad Yusuf al-Qar'i report from Cairo]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive statement to 'UMAN paper Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has stressed that the decision undertaken by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to tie the delivery of F-16 planes to Israel with its withdrawal from Lebanon is a step in the right direction. He expressed hope that other steps in favor of peace and stability in the region will follow.

On the value and importance of the time factor in the issue of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon Ghali said that the time factor is a basic and vital factor since the Israeli occupation of Lebanon is illegitimate and it is a violation of the UN resolutions. He indicated that 10 months have elapsed since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon as Israel continues to procrastinate and bargain. He pointed out that the continuation of the current situation in Lebanon prevents the legitimate Lebanese Government from undertaking its national responsibilities in the field of reconstructing what was destroyed by the war and in working in the direction of ensuring stability and national unity.

Stressing that we must remember that Israel's policy in Lebanon is to divide and rule, he noted that Israel foments differences among the Lebanese factions in order to achieve its goals.

COMMUNIQUE ON MILITARY OPERATIONS 5, 6 APRIL

JN061612 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- During their activities in the operational sectors in the past 24 hours the Iraqi forces killed nine Iranians and destroyed two observation posts and three infantry positions.

This was reported by the Armed Forces General Command in Communique No 1,051 issued here today. The communique said that the racist enemy today shelled Basra and its suburbs, destroying two houses and causing damage to some civilian installations in the city.

The communique said that the enemy also shelled Mandali and its suburbs and Zurbatiyah. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,051 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces reaffirm their constant readiness to defend lofty Iraq and the great achievements of the revolution and to pursue their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the clique of rancor and aggression which is ruling in Iran. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units struck an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the Maysan operational sector with all types of weapons, killing four and destroying one observation post.

2. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward unit's positions in the area east of Basra. Our forces clashed with it, killing three and destroying two infantry positions.

3. Two were killed and one infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The racist enemy today shelled Basra and Mandali and their suburbs, and Zurbatiyah, destroying two houses in Basra and damaging several civilian installations in them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 April 1983

MOROCCAN ENVOY DELIVERS KING'S MESSAGE, DEPARTS

JN070943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Apr (INA) -- Reda Guedira, adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, arrived there this morning on a short visit to Baghdad. While here, the Moroccan envoy will convey an oral message from the Moroccan king to President Saddam Husayn, dealing with the convocation of an emergency Arab summit conference to discuss the Arab developments and the Palestinian issue in particular.

At noon today President Saddam Husayn received Guedira who delivered King Hassan's message on a Moroccan proposal to hold an emergency Arab summit conference this month and on the topics to be discussed.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im, head of the presidential office.

Reda Guedira left Baghdad this afternoon. It was learned here that he left for Amman carrying a message from King Hassan II to Jordan's King Husayn, also dealing with Morocco's proposal to hold a summit.

BELGIAN MINISTER VISITS, MEETS OFFICIALS

Meeting With Ramadan

JN061717 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received here today Willy de Clerq, Belgian vice prime minister and minister of finance and external trade.

The two sides discussed means of strengthening bilateral cooperation and expanding relations between Iraq and Belgium in all spheres to serve the joint interests of the two peoples.

Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed Iraq's satisfaction with the development of the relations of cooperation between Iraq and Belgium and Iraq's eagerness to promote them, stressing that there are many spheres and many possibilities for achieving this. The Belgian official expressed his country's satisfaction with the course of the advanced relations of cooperation between his country and Iraq.

Finance, Industry Ministers

JN061444 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razzuqi received here today Willy de Clerq, Belgian vice prime minister and minister of finance and external trade, and his accompanying delegation.

The two sides discussed bilateral economic cooperation and the means of promoting it to serve the two friendly countries' interests. The Belgian official admired the continued development in Iraq despite the circumstances that it is passing through. He said that the Belgian companies are willing to increase their participation in the implementation of several Iraqi development projects.

Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals, also received De Clerq today. The two sides exchanged views on how to promote industrial relations between the two friendly countries. The meeting was attended by the Belgian ambassador in Baghdad.

The Belgian official arrived here earlier today on a visit to Iraqi that will last several days.

IRAQ-USSR SOCIETY HOLDS CELEBRATION IN MOSCOW

JN061902 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 6 Apr (INA) -- The Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society held a popular celebration here today on the 11th anniversary of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the USSR.

(Piotraved Pinko), deputy chairman of the Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society, delivered a speech on the occasion in which he praised the relations of friendship that exist between the two countries, stressing the USSR's eagerness to promote these relations in all spheres.

He reiterated his country's stand calling for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war and settling the dispute through peaceful means. He added that prolonging this war is only in the interest of the imperialist forces. He denounced the Israeli aggression against the Arab region and reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian cause.

The Iraqi ambassador to the USSR also delivered a speech in which he praised the relations of friendship and cooperation which exist between the friendly USSR and Iraqi people and the progress achieved in these relations.

He spoke about the peace initiatives Iraq had submitted to end the Iraqi-Iranian war -- initiatives that were welcomed wholeheartedly and understood by the world public and the international organizations. He also referred to Iran's rejection of these initiatives and proposals which seek to settle the dispute between the two neighbor countries in a peaceful manner.

AL-WATAN: HUSAYN TO JOIN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

JN071305 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1250 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Apr (SANA) -- The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN has affirmed that King Husayn will join the negotiations [with Israel] even without PLO authorization.

In an exclusive report today, the paper added that King Husayn will deliver a speech during the next few days in which he will announce that he is entering the negotiations. Should the PLO refuse to authorize this, he will hold a so-called popular referendum on his decision to unilaterally join the negotiations.

INCREASED USSR PRESENCE IN MIDEAST NOTED

JN070849 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 7 Apr 83 pp 1, 28

[Report by AKHBAR AL-USBU' political editor]

[Text] AKHBAR AL-USBU' has learned that the anticipated visit to Damascus by Soviet leader Andropov at the head of a high-ranking delegation will carry big surprises serving the Arab interests. This was confirmed to us by informed sources. These sources did not rule out a possible Andropov visit to Baghdad in order to meet with President Saddam Husayn. Once this visit takes place, Damascus will finally put an end to its close relationship with Iran.

The USSR's resumption of arms and spare parts shipments to Iraq, as recently stated by Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad, has elicited an Arab welcome and appreciation of this new Soviet stand. It has been recently disclosed that on meeting with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and hearing bitter Palestinian criticism of Moscow's attitude toward the Palestinians during the Lebanese war, Andropov firmly told 'Arafat: Give us until April.

Western diplomatic sources expect active Soviet moves in the Middle East in an attempt to restore the Soviet role there -- a role which has diminished following the expulsion of the Soviet experts from Egypt at the time of former President Anwar as-Sadat. Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak announced a few days ago that the normalization of Egyptian-Soviet relations will take place very shortly. These sources consider the continuous contacts between Moscow and Cairo to restore old relations as part of the Soviet moves to restore the position they lost in the region.

The Soviet warning to Israel was an indication that Moscow is determined to return to the region. News reports also cited the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov as telling Yasir 'Arafat after the [Palestinian] resistance departure from Beirut: Give us until April. It seems that Andropov is determined to fulfill this pledge. Hence he hastened to rearm Syria and supply it with the modern SAM-5's and SAM-11's which have so far not been used outside the USSR and not even given to its allies in the Warsaw Pact countries. He also supplied Syria with MIG-27 aircraft, which are described by experts as the strongest fighter planes.

Western diplomatic sources believe this step by Moscow is a reply to the Arab and Palestinian criticism of the Soviet role during the Lebanese war and the siege of Beirut. By this step Moscow is also trying to assert that it will not leave the Middle East for the Americans.

In the same way as the United States is concerned about resisting Soviet penetration in the region, the Soviets are now also concerned about resisting U.S. penetration in the region. The Kremlin is worried most about the U.S. military presence in the Middle East within the multinational forces in Sinai and Lebanon and about the facilities some Arab countries are rendering to the U.S. forces.

It seems that the concern over the Soviet warning has shifted from Washington, which considered it an attempt to stir up feelings in the Middle East, to Tel Aviv, which quickly informed Moscow via a third party that it does not intend to attack the Syrian and Palestinian forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley.

Diplomatic observers believe that the Soviet rivalry with the Americans in the Middle East has extended to include the Soviet Jews. In return for U.S. appeals to allow the Soviet Jews to emigrate, Moscow formed an anti-Zionist committee of Soviet Jews. The improvement of the Iraqi-Soviet relations after the tense relations between Moscow and Tehran in the wake of the arrest of communist Tudeh Party leaders is another indication of Soviet-Arab rapprochement.

Observers note that several Soviet delegations and envoys have recently visited the Arab capitals in an attempt by Moscow to bolster its relations with the Arab world outside the framework of traditional relations between Moscow and Damascus, Moscow and Aden, and Moscow and Tripoli.

JORDANIAN-SOVIET SOCIETY CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

JN071050 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Apr 83 pp 1, 19

[Dispatch by Samih Sayir]

[Text] A celebration was held at the professional unions building [in Amman] yesterday evening to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society. Bahjat at-Talhuni, special adviser to His Majesty King Husayn; Chief Qadi Shaykh Ibrahim al-Qattan; several officials; and the USSR ambassador in Amman attended.

In an opening speech, Dr Rif'at 'Awdah, chairman of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, welcomed the Soviet and Arab delegations and said: We are today celebrating the 15th anniversary of the society and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and the USSR.

Dr 'Awdah reviewed the progress of Jordanian-Soviet relations, indicating that they have recently developed and become stronger due to His Majesty King Husayn's visits to the USSR. He also praised the role being played by the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and the Arab-Soviet friendship societies in promoting friendship and cooperation between the Arab countries and the USSR, which has opened new doors to acquaint each side with the important accomplishments of the other, particularly in science and culture.

Mahmud 'Abbas then delivered a speech for the Palestinian-Soviet Friendship Society, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam az-Zayyat for the Egyptian-Soviet Friendship Society, Muhammad 'Abd al-Qawi for the PDRY-Soviet Friendship Society, Ahmad Muhammad ash-Shabibi for the YAR-Soviet Friendship Society, Malik Mansur for the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society, and Samih Kibrit for the Lebanese-Soviet Friendship Society. The speakers praised these societies' role in bolstering cooperation between the Arab countries and the USSR.

They stressed the need to develop and strengthen these relations on realistic, objective bases in order to firmly confront the challenges being imposed on the Arab countries.

Yevgeniy Ivanov, chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship With the Arab Countries, delivered a speech in which he expressed gratitude and appreciation for the efforts which were exerted to render this celebration successful. He added that it showed the depty of cooperation and friendship between Jordan and the USSR.

The following statement was issued at the end of the celebration:

The celebarations held on the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, 5-7 April 1983, were to us -- the representatives of the Arab societies of friendship with the USSR -- a previous opportunity to express the importance and feasibility of this friendship as well as our strong desire to promote, protect, and preserve this friendship due to the large role it plays in developing relations between our Arab nation on the one hand and the USSR and its friendly peoples on the other.

The unwavering stands the friendly USSR has always taken in support of our Arab nation's confrontation of the inperialist and Zionist plots are an important factor in backing our just struggle to foil hostile plots and schemes, particularly at this critical stage of the Arab struggle in which imperialist and Zionist plotting against our Arab nation is being intensified.

We highly value the friendly USSR's support for the Palestinian Arab people's struggle and the USSR's political, military, and economic aid. We also appreciate its backing and multifaceted aid to all the Arab peoples in their struggle for independence, freedom, and social progress. We consider these stands a genuine expression of the true friendship combining the Arab peoples and the USSR's friendly peoples. The Arab societies of friendship with the USSR have had a prominent role in promoting the ties of friendship and cooperation with the friendly USSR. Due to the cooperation between our societies and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship With Foreign Countries, new doors have opened, acquaintance with the two sides' important accomplishments has expanded, and cooperation has increased, particularly in science and culture.

The participation of representatives from the Arab-Soviet friendship societies in these celebrations is unequivocal proof of a sincere desire to promote friendship with the USSR, which has always supported our just struggle and with whom we share in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism and in backing the causes of world peace and liberation.

While meeting in this large popular rally, which is organized by the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, we assert our determination to continue our efforts to bolster and enhance Arab-Soviet friendship, thus serving our national and pan-Arab objectives.

AMMAN PRESS REVIEWS JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN TALKS

JN061235 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline, "Amman Talks -- From Optimism to Action," AD-DUSTUR says: The press statement, which was issued following the intensive talks between Jordan and the PLO, has affirmed that the talks will be resumed soon.

As both sides realize, the issue will not tolerate delay because the Israeli settlement program makes it incumbent upon Jordan and the PLO to move toward any effort to maintain the Arabism of the territory and the national identity of the kinfolk.

Since Israel is exploiting the current Arab and international situation, the joint Jordanian-Palestinian understanding of the dangers inherent in the Israeli program places before us a situation that cannot be ignored or left to aspirations which may or may not be fulfilled. The main task considering these circumstances has not only defined our options, but has defined the path in light of these options. Because there was a consensus on the Arab commitment to the Fes resolutions, this commitment makes it essential to pursue any effort by any side to find a way to obstruct the Israeli settlement program and which consequently will lead to the freezing of settlements as a first step toward protecting the kinfolk on their territory.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The optimism that accompanied the Amman talks, which was reflected in the press statement and the statements by the PLO chairman, makes us impatient for the resumption of the talks. Every hour that passes without achieving an agreement on the joint move means that the cornerstone of a new settlement is laid, a repressive measure is practiced against the kinfolk, and another step toward the annexation is achieved. Should annexation be realized, positions of all sides toward the issue of justice, peace, and rights in the world would be revealed. It is essential for all sides to face up to their responsibilities so as to judge their real intentions.

On the same subject and under the headline, "The One Decision Is a Joint Responsibility," SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: In an atmosphere of speculation and expectation surrounding the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and amid the aspirations of optimists and the doubts of pessimists, one fact emerges far from the speculations and expectations: namely the sincerity of the Jordanian-Palestinian course in the joint effort to save the cause, liberate the territory and kinfolk from expanding occupation, and adopt a courageous, decisive decision which is capable of achieving the joint objective.

Whether the atmosphere that prevailed during the talks was described as positive or replete with divergent viewpoints, the talks stemmed from the mutual concern to continue the march for the sake of the common cause and the common fate. It is true that the adoption of a courageous decision requires a courageous stand, and that crucial steps are a necessity dictated by the nature of the phase and time and they require deep study, much thought, and conviction. Hesitation with the Arab and international political interactions and the effect by factors from outside the Jordanian-Palestinian decisionmakers' circle, could place the negotiations before personal considerations which will obstruct the joint effort and paralyze the ability to adopt a decisive decision with which to confront the increasing challenges.

If we believe that the Arab consensus and the pan-Arab decision is necessary to complete what the two sides have begun along the road to a solution, which would regain the territory, liberate the kinfolk, and guarantee the Arab rights, then the priorities presented in the talks should be dealt with by the Jordanians and Palestinians in the first place and then presented as a joint work program, because they are the owners of the cause and they are the ones most threatened. This requires the utilization of the time factor and the available opportunities. SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: Those who wagered on the failure of the talks have lost, because the outcome of all the meetings has demonstrated the mutual desire to continue with the serious efforts, and has demonstrated frankness in presenting future Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the joint path toward future efforts embodied by the one will. As long as the will to keep this spirit alive exists, the success of the march will lead to the achievement of the expected aspirations and joint objectives.

U.S. APPEAL FOR 'SUCCESSFUL' MIDEAST ACCORD VIEWED

JN070739 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Press review]

[Text] This morning's papers comment on a statement issued in Washington yesterday urging Jordan and the Palestinians to participate in bringing the peace efforts to a successful result and to exploit the golden opportunity which might not be presented again in a plan other than the Reagan plan.

Under the headline "The Responsibility To Make a Decision or To Wait," SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: In a frank appeal to Jordan and the Palestinians to reach agreement and benefit from the available opportunity to realize a political settlement in the Middle East, the U.S. State Department stressed the time element which is not a neutral factor in the Middle East developments. In Washington's view, the possibility of losing the opportunity presented by the Reagan plan means further losses for the Arabs and further gains for Israel.

Since the Arabs have ignored the importance of the time element in finding a solution to the Middle East crisis, Israel has been using this element as an obstacle to hinder the Arab political moves and to create a new fait accompli where it would be impossible to demand the restoration of the occupied territories in exchange for peace. SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: Gradually, time has become the most important Israeli weapon in fighting Arab decision and the most important means to transform Israel's temporary military occupation into a permanent civilian expansion and colonization of Arab territory. Time has also become the most important Israeli weapon in fighting the peace efforts in the region.

For the Arabs, time has always meant waiting: either waiting after making a decision, or waiting for the others to move in response to such a decision. Even during this period of waiting, new events, facts, and factors appeared which needed a consensus, a decision, and anotehr period of waiting. The Arabs and their decisions, therefore, have remained revolving in a circle of expectation and waiting.

It is common knowledge that at this stage, waiting is a godsend for Zionism and one of its most important requirements. It gives it the necessary time to end Arab existence in Arab territories and enable it to entrench its entity there permanently. The time which we make available for Israel is at the expense of Arab territories. Therefore, the Husayn-'Arafat meeting is required to exploit the time element to deliver our land and people because the decision which will be made will be the cornerstone in the future of the Palestinian cause. Either we cut short Israel's Judaization program, through our common moves, and activate international efforts to hinder and stop it, or give it enough time to be implemented.

In conclusion, SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: The Jordanian-Palestinian talks in Amman, the current Arab contacts over the Amman meetings, and the possible convening of an Arab summit to give the forthcoming decision an Arab garb reflect the historical responsibility of this decision at this stage -- a decision which may be a rejection or acceptance. Will the forthcoming Jordanian-Palestinian decision be a breakthrough in this circle of waiting so that it might become the nucleus of Arab consensus and the motivating power of Arab and international efforts to save the land and achieve peace?

Writing on the same topic under the headline, "The U.S. Patience," AR-RA'Y says: Yesterday, the U.S. State Department spokesman made a strange statement. He said that the patience of the United States is running out with regard to the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, that it is time for Jordan to join the negotiations in the region.

What strikes us is that the U.S. patience has run out on these talks which have taken only a few weeks, and has not run out on Israel's rejection of the Reagan plan. Israel announced its rejection of the plan when it was first proposed on 1 September and has been rejecting it ever since. This U.S. patience has not run out on Israel's settlement policy which has been practiced in the occupied Palestinian territory for years. It has not run out with regard to the operations of mass poisoning in the West Bank and with Israel's rejection of the UN Security Council's decision to send an investigating committed to the West Bank.

All these things have not caused U.S. patience to run out; in fact U.S. patience is unlimited in this regard.

AR-RA'Y adds: On the other hand, it should be stressed that only the Jordanians and the Palestinians can determine how much time they need for their negotiations. Jordan, which has shown real understanding of the importance of the time element, is the party which must be allowed to express impatience with regard to the long time the United States is taking to prove its credibility in Lebanon -- a credibility the U.S. Administration itself has accepted as a means to prove its ability to carry out the task of realizing a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

AR-RA'Y concludes: What is more strange is that the State Department spokesman's statement came only a few days after a speech by President Reagan in Los Angeles in which he said that the United States could not activate the peace march in the region before a solution to the Lebanese question has been reached. In view of this situation and since no signs are evident that an agreement on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is drawing closer, why is the Department of State so impatient with the Jordanian-Palestinian talks? Why is it trying to throw the ball into the Jordanian-Palestinian court when everyone knows that it is in the U.S. court waiting for a Lebanese solution and proof of the U.S. credibility which seems to be taking such a very long time?

On the same issue, and under the headline, "Facts That Cannot Be Changed by Statements," AD-DUSTUR says: It is very surprising that the two U.S. official spokesmen and the U.S. press in particular are saying that the U.S. Administration's patience is running out because the Arabs, particularly Jordan and the PLO, are about the lose a rare opportunity to realize peace.

We are not going back over 34 years of continuous U.S. aid and support for Israel. We do not want to point out that all the operations of Israeli invasion and aggression were carried out with U.S. funds and weapons. We are not pausing before the political cover the United States has always made available for Israel as an enemy of international justice, peace, and law. We are satisfied with discussing the Reagan initiative. We welcomed its positive aspects and considered it a qualitative transformation in U.S. policy. We showed our readiness to deal with it in light of the comprehensive Arab commitment to the Fes summit.

Nevertheless, all these Jordanian and Arab stands have not deterred the U.S. policy of assistance and support for Israel.

Concluding its comment, AD-DUSTUR says: Who is the party to which the United States should appeal? Who should be exposed to U.S. pressure to stop his systematic violations of international law, morality, and human principles? If Washington does not want to admit that it does not want to continue its initiative seriously, bravely, and truthfully, it should not hold the Arabs, particularly Jordan and the PLO, responsible for its inability to reiterate its desire, credibility, and aspirations for a just and decent solution for the cause of the Palestinian people.

AKHBAR AL-USBU' also writes on the same issue, saying it is very clear that since Fes summit conference and the tour of the Arab seven-member committee which followed it, the ball has been in the U.S. court. The future of the peace efforts depended first on a U.S. Administration's stance that would bring pressure to bear on Israel, and second -- which is more important -- on opening a direct dialogue with the PLO. The Jordanian-Palestinian talks have gone a long way in unifying stands and reaching a joint formula as a contribution toward speeding up peace moves.

What is at issue now is not an Arab contribution toward peace efforts but a U.S. ability to present its commitments and carry them out. Washington is currently responsible for strenghtening peace efforts by pressuring Israel to withdraw from Lebanon and freeze the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as part of a comprehensive plan to realize withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories.

SALIM DISCUSSES NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRAPER

NC061256 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today appraised yesterday's negotiations round with Ambassador Morris Draper. At the 1-hour meeting, Salim reviewed the stances in respect of tomorrow's session, which will be attended by all members of the three delegations.

Diplomatic sources said that the talks between Draper and Salim also dealt with the steps related to speeding up the negotiations and to eliminating the difficulties which Lebanon regards as new obstacles in the clause on security arrangements. The foreign minister and Draper also discussed the visit which French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson will pay to Beirut beginning tonight and the role of the multinational force.

Well-informed sources indicated that Ambassador Habib might return to the area this weekend.

At 1600, Minister Salim will chair a meeting of the political operations room to appraise the latest phase of the negotiations and the stances regarding tomorrow's session. At noon today, Minister Salim conferred with former President Charles Hilu on the same subjects and the results of Hilu's visit to the Vatican.

REPORT ON PHALANGIST POLITICAL BUREAU MEETING

NC061932 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The Phalangist Political Bureau held a meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. It discussed a number of topics, the most important being the negotiations, as well as the international guarantees pertaining to them, and it discussed the economic situation in the country.

The conferees emphasized the need to obtain international guarantees from various sides to secure the withdrawals from Lebanon. They regarded the stand of the government as the basic guarantee for freeing the homeland from the occupations and for tackling pending situations.

The Political Bureau also discussed economic, worker, and industrial conditions. It referred to the stagnation which befell the economic and industrial utilities as a result of the war, as well as the negative results of the war on the workers and employees. The discussions also touched upon the harmful practices by some merchants who have withheld merchandise or have resorted to smuggling -- practices that had negative repercussions on the general economy. The party expressed satisfaction with the government's attention on this.

A draft resolution was read to the Political Bureau. It calls for the formation of an extraordinary executive committee for a limited period to be terminated by the end of 1983. The committee will have the power of making decisions on everything that pertains to organizing and [word indistinct] the party, fixing the administrative duties and appointing persons responsible for them, studying the conditions of all units, drawing up a formula for the general situation in light of developments, and preparing for a general conference that will define the party's goals and chart its future policy.

The above-mentioned committee will be comprised of the deputy party leader, the secretary general, a representative of the Phalangist parliamentary bloc, the commander of the Lebanese Forces, and the chairman of the Security Council. The committee will work under the direct supervision of the party leader, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil.

NEGOTIATIONS RESUME IN QIRYAT SHEMONA 7 APR

NC071134 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1035 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Qiryat Shemona -- live]

[Text] The Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli negotiations were resumed today in a plenary session held at 1100 in Qiryat Shemona. Head of the Lebanese negotiating delegation Dr Antoine Fattal answered journalists' questions. To a question about the numbering of the session, Fattal said: It is of no concern to me whether it is the 26th or the 27th round.

About the session held in Khaldah last Tuesday, Dr Fattal said: It was not a session but an informal meeting. Dr Fattal said that there will be four intensive sessions next week.

About the reason for not holding a session yesterday, Dr Fattal said: This was due to the convening of an extraordinary Israeli Cabinet meeting, attended by Mr Kimche. We had expected something to emerge from the meeting.

Head of the U.S. delegation Ambassador Morris Draper said that he is optimistic over the progress made in the negotiations and hoped that a solution will be reached.

Ambassador Draper declined to comment on or answer a question about Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir's statement on the Americans' presence in Lebanon which he considered an obstacle in the way of reaching an agreement in Lebanon.

The Lebanese delegation arrived in Qiryat Shemona at 0955 in spite of the bad weather conditions and flying difficulties. Before the beginning of the session, the delegations held consultations for 40 minutes. This round of negotiations is an extension to the informal meeting held Tuesday in Khaldah. The observers expect that the question of security arrangements will be discussed at this round of talks. It appears that the parties have reached in the negotiations one stand regarding the ensuring of security in southern Lebanon and protecting northern Israel. It also appears that the parties will reach a compromise concerning the question of Major Sa'd Haddad as a result of the U.S. mediation. Observers believe that an announcement about a solution to this will be made soon.

Differences Unresolved

NC071212 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The tripartite negotiations were resumed in Qiryat Shemona in the presence of the Lebanese, Israeli, and U.S. delegations at a time when it is reported that the well-known differences remained unresolved so far. These mainly revolve around the so-called joint patrols and the role of Major Sa'd Haddad and his forces in the security arrangements which are being proposed for adoption in southern Lebanon.

CHEYSSON ARRIVES, EXCHANGES STATEMENTS WITH SALIM

NC070648 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson arrived in Beirut at 2300 last night on a 2-day visit to Lebanon during which he will meet with senior Lebanese officials. He was met at the airport by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, French Ambassador in Beirut Paul Marc Henry, and the commander of the French contingent operating within the framework of the multinational force.

The French minister will today, Thursday, preside over a meeting of the French ambassadors accredited in the Middle East.

Minister Claude Cheysson made the following statement at the airport:

I have come here at the invitation of my colleague and friend, Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. I am very happy about this visit. I came to Lebanon 6 months ago on a very painful occasion, namely, the death of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil. This was before the Lebanese people had resolved to choose his brother, Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, as president of the Lebanese Republic. Minister Cheysson added: This is my fourth meeting with Minister Salim. He extended an invitation to me to visit Lebanon when he was on a recent visit to Paris. God willing, I shall meet with his excellency the president and with some of the Lebanese Government officials. Cheysson added: As you know, we have asked the Lebanese Government to approve the holding of a meeting in Beirut of the French ambassadors accredited in the Middle East. Beirut has been chosen as the venue for the meeting this year, because Lebanon falls within the concerns of the French Government, whose foremost priorities include solving Lebanon's current crisis.

Commenting on Minister Claude Cheysson's visit to Lebanon, Dr. Elie Salim said:

I am here to welcome our distinguished guest. We hope that his visit to Lebanon will be successful. We shall hold important talks on many pending questions related to the correct negotiations of the tripartite committee. He added: Minister Cheysson is an old friend of Lebanon. We always coordinate with him on all the important questions which concern Lebanon. We thank him for his visit to Lebanon. We have no doubt that he is always ready to visit Lebanon as necessary to serve Lebanon's greater issues.

Minister Salim concluded by saying: As you are aware, Lebanon has a strong relationship with France. This relationship will remain strong well into the future.

Salim Talks With Cheysson

NC070959 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson began his talks with Lebanese officials with a meeting held at 0915 today with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

The meeting was attended by French Ambassador in Beirut Paul Marc Henry and the technical adviser to the French president, Hubert Vedrine.

After the 45-minute meeting, Cheysson declined to make any statement but said that he would speak tomorrow at a news conference before leaving Beirut. Cheysson then went from the Foreign Ministry to the Republican Palace.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Cheysson

NC071050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] At 1030 today, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson who earlier met with Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Dr Elie Salim. Cheysson will hold a news conference tomorrow before leaving Beirut.

AL-WAZZAN RECEIVES LEBANESE CP DELEGATION

NC071114 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] At 0900 today, Prime Minister Shafiz al-Wazzan received in the Government House a delegation of the Lebanese Communist Party led by George Hawi and including Nadim 'Abd as-Samad and Khalil Na'us. Al-Wazzan later met a hoteliers union delegation led by its chairman Niqula Mudawwar who presented a note dealing with hotel conditions. The prime minister then received the Pakistani ambassador to Lebanon with whom he reviewed the political developments in Lebanon and in the Middle East.

ARMED PALESTINIANS DEPLOY IN AL-BIQA' 6 APR

NC062043 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The artillery fire between Bhamdun, 'Ayn al-Jadidah, and Ba'lshmayh stopped around 2030 tonight. However, explosions were heard in the capital as of 2130. The scope of the clashes expanded to include Al-Kahluniyah and Qibbay'. Reports from the Al-Biqa' indicate that armed Palestinians from various organizations deployed today in an intensive manner in the areas of Sa'd Nayil, Ta'lbaya, Ta'nayil, Jditta and Jalala and in the neighboring villages as far as the approaches to Shtawrah and [word indistinct]. The reasons for this intensive armed manifestations have not been explained to the security authorities.

RESISTENCE GROUP ATTACKS ISRAELI TRUCK CONVOY

NC070658 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] A Lebanese national resistance group attacked three Israeli trucks at 2030 yesterday after crossing Al-Awwali bridge in the direction of Sidon. The resistance group used rocket and machinegun fire. The three trucks were hit, but the number of casualties among the enemy soldiers is unknown. This is the third operation to take place in the Sidon vicinity within the past 36 hours. The national resistance front has claimed responsibility for the operation, affirming that the group which carried out the operation returned safely to base.

According to reports last night, fire was seen raging in one of the trucks, and Israeli military reinforcements arrived at the scene. The Israeli soldiers sealed off the area and combed the neighboring fields with machinegun fire. They also fired some flares.

MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA DELIVERS MESSAGE FROM KING

JN070549 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, arrived in Damascus last night on a visit of several days to Syria. He is carrying a message from Moroccan King Hassan II to President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the current Arab situation and issues of common interest. He was welcomed at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

In a statement to SANA, Boucetta expressed his pleasure at visiting Damascus. Boucetta had earlier visited Tripoli and conveyed a similar message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

FAHD, BENDJEDID TALK BY PHONE WITH AL-ASAD

JN061910 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Yesterday, a telephone conversation was held between President Hafiz al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. A telephone conversation was also held yesterday between President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

KHADDAM, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIAN DISCUSS MIDEAST

JN061417 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received here this morning (Pierre de Rick), chairman of the European Parliament's East Committee [name and title as received]. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; and the FRG ambassador in Damascus. The discussion focused on the situation in the Middle East and the European group's stand on it.

AL-KASM RECEIVES USSR MINISTER 6 APRIL

JN061350 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1300 today received Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko, USSR minister of the maritime fleet. The meeting was attended by Transport Minister Yunis Muhammad and the USSR Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin.

Guzhenko conveyed greetings from Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Dr al-Kasm. He admired Syria's economic and industrial progress, the industrial establishments it is building, and the many services it provides to its citizens, particularly in the sphere of public transport.

The USSR minister stressed that the close USSR-Syrain relations are progressing in all spheres and that the USSR strongly supports Syria in its struggle against the imperialist and Zionist schemes in this region. He added that the USSR statement in this respect had been explicit.

The USSR minister also explained that Syrian-USSR friendship, which is becoming stronger each day, will consolidate the various spheres of cooperation between the two friendly countries, Syria and the USSR.

Dr al-Kasm expressed Syria's appreciation for the USSR's stands in support of Syria, stands which are evident in the statement issued by the USSR Government and which clarify forcefully and sincerely the USSR support for Syria against the hostile schemes being encouraged by U.S. imperialism.

Dr al-Kasm also stated that Syria considers the USSR the friend which champions the just causes of the Arabs and world liberation causes. He stressed that Syrian-USSR friendship has proved that it is always based on sound foundations and that it will continue to develop in all spheres to achieve the joint objectives of Syria and the USSR.

Dr al-Kasm was briefed on the talks which the USSR minister is holding with Syrian officials in Damascus and which have resulted in the conclusion of an agreement between the two friendly countries.

At the end of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm asked the USSR minister to convey his greetings to Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

USSR Guest Departs

JN061906 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko, USSR minister of the maritime fleet, and his delegation ended their visit to Syria and left Damascus this afternoon. They were seen off by Transport Minister Yunis Muhammad and the USSR ambassador in Damascus.

AL-ASAD GREETS HUNGARIAN LEADERS ON NATIONAL DAY

JN061450 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1424 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Apr (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a congratulatory cable on Hungary's national day to Comrade Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, and Comrade Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic. In his cable, the president extended sincerest congratulations and warm greetings to the friendly Hungarian people in his name and in the name of the Syrian Arab people.

President al-Asad said: Syria highly values the support of the Hungarian People's Republic for our just struggle against imperialist and Zionist conspiracies. President al-Asad expressed his confidence that existing ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop for the benefit of both peoples.

CABINET DISCUSSES DELAY ON F-16'S, LEBANON

'Surprised' by Announcement

TA061322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] At the Cabinet session, Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke about Israeli-U.S. relations and said that Israel was surprised by President Reagan's announcement that the postponement in the supply of F-16 aircraft would remain in effect until Israel withdrew from Lebanon.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Minister Shamir pointed out that officials in Washington explained that the President's announcement had not been planned, and had come in reply to a question posed during his speech. Our correspondent notes that the ministers did not raise any proposals for a reaction to President Reagan's announcement and the Cabinet did not make any decisions.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens reviewed the security situation in Judaea and Samaria and said that military government officials continue searching for ways to firmly handle the disturbances.

The Health Ministry director general reviewed the affair of the poisoning panic. The finance and health ministers reported about the negotiations with the doctors.

Official Reaction Discussed

TA061558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1520 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The Cabinet today did not decide how to react to President Reagan's announcement that the United States will not supply F-16's to Israel before the Israeli forces leave Lebanon. The Cabinet members heard reviews from the foreign and defense ministers during today's session. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the Cabinet meetings:

[Begin Schiffer recording] The ministers who left today's Cabinet meeting sounded disappointed with the political survey they heard from the foreign ministers. Some of them said the survey was very general and summarized reports in the communications media about the state of negotiations with Lebanon, and about recent developments in Israeli-U.S. relations.

It seems that at a meeting of the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister prior to the Cabinet session, it was decided not to raise proposals on how to react to President Reagan's announcement on the continued suspension of the F-16's to Israel.

During the session, Minister Shamir told the other ministers that his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz, promised him during their meeting in Washington that he would recommend to President Reagan that the aircraft be released. However, Shultz also emphasized that this would not depend on his recommendation alone, and as is known his recommendation was not accepted.

President Reagan's announcement and the link he made between the arms supply and U.S. policy in the region has harmed Israel, Shamir said. In subsequent contacts between Israeli and U.S. representatives it was stated that the announcement had not been planned and that the President was answering a question on this matter during a public appearance.

The foreign minister's assessment: President Reagan's announcement was intended to pressure Israel to moderate its positions in the negotiations over arrangements in Lebanon and at the same time to signal to King Husayn to join the peace process.

Israel will not be pressed when its security is at stake, Minister Shamir said. As for the negotiations with Lebanon, the foreign minister believes that the last meetings in Khaldah and in Qiryat Shemona were marked by further progress, and to quite a degree thanks to the fact that the Americans did not intervene in the talks. Intensive talks will be conducted next week and it may thus be possible to speed up the conclusion of the talks.

According to the Cabinet announcement, Defense Minister Moshe Arens reviewed security in Judaea and Samaria. Minister Arens noted that there has indeed been an increase in the disturbances in the territories lately. Yitzhaq Moda'i asked what is being done about it, and Arens replied: Firm measures have been adopted and these should serve as a deterrent.

The director general of the Health Ministry elaborated on the problem of the poisoning in the territories. There were harsh verbal exchanges between Finance Minister Yoram Aridor and Health Minister Eli'ezer Shostak during the session over the continued physicians strike and the way it is being handled by the various parties involved. [end recording]

Ben-Me'ir Comments

TA070643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Israel's deputy foreign minister, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, has sharply criticized recent American moves in the Middle East. Ben-Me'ir was speaking in Jerusalem at the annual dinner of the Rabbinical Council of America, honoring two Yeshiva rabbinical colleges in Israel. David Essing reports:

[Essing] Deputy Foreign Minister Ben-Me'ir signaled the U.S. that Israel will not be swayed by American pressure. Ben-Me'ir did not mention President Reagan's decision to withhold F-16 aircraft until Israeli forces pull out of Lebanon, but he obviously had this in mind.

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording] Israel has undertaken negotiations with Lebaon not because of American pressure, not because of any request of the United States, but because it is in our own interest to do so, because Israel genuinely wants to leave Lebanon as soon as possible, at the same time guaranteeing the security and the peace of the Galilee and its inhabitants. Withholding weapons for Israel, weapons which are vital too for our self defense, withholding weapons, delaying weapons, will not influence our position, and will not cause us to veer from our just course. [end recording]

The dpuety foreign minister also lashed out at American overtures to Jordan's King Husayn to join the peace process:

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording] As a true friend, a genuine true friend -- if Israel is a true friend of the United States -- it pains us to see such a great country pleading again and again to Husayn to join the negotiations, to join the negotiations, sending furtive glances in the direction of the archmurderer Yasir 'Arafat. Israel wants more than the United States, certainly not less, for negotiations with Jordan, as we have declared time and again. But we have learned the hard way that not by pleading or begging, not by consideration of the terrorist organization of the PLO, can we move the peace process forward.

The peace process cannot be moved forward through appeasement, but the peace process can be moved forward when Jordan will have to realize that it must come to terms with Israel on a genuine and fair basis. [end recording]

Ben-Me'ir's statement follows an Israeli Cabinet meeting that discussed recent political developments, and would indicate that Jerusalem has decided to challenge the latest American steps in the Middle East.

Agreement Said Near

TA062001 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Today the assessment prevailing in the Cabinet was that an agreement between Israel and Lebanon is near. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that in recent weeks the Israeli and Lebanese representatives have dealt with the formulation of many clauses in the agreement and it seems that the two countries want to sign the agreement soon.

Philip Habib will return to Jerusalem at the beginning of next week. It is hoped that by then the dispute over the status of Major Sa'd Haddad will be solved as well. The foreign minister informed the Cabinet today that the pace of negotiations with Lebanon has been accelerated and it is possible that as of next week the delegations will meet four times a week. Tomorrow another meeting of the Israeli and Lebanese delegations will take place in Qiryat Shemona. Further progress in the agreement on the security arrangements is expected.

Fear of Soviet Threat

TA061240 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 6 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] A large group of Israeli Cabinet ministers is pressing for a quick end to the negotiations with Lebanon and an IDF withdrawal from that country. The main reason is the ministers' fear of the Soviet threats that they will intervene on behalf of the Syrians.

Former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon strongly opposes this trend, and he is likely to embark on a fierce struggle against the ministers who want a quick solution, based on the argument that they are squandering the fruits of the war.

SHAMIR SAYS NEGOTIATIONS TO ACCELERATE

TA071212 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1145 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that within 2 weeks he will know if there will be an agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Speaking before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Shamir said that it has been agreed with the Lebanese to speed up the negotiations and that four meetings will be held next week in order to accelerate them. Shamir said that the Lebanese fear the possibility of a unilateral Israeli withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River and that this fear constitutes an Israeli means of pressure against Lebanon.

Shamir also revealed that at the end of the month an Israeli economic representation would be opened in South Korea. The representation will be manned by South Koreans. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav says that in the past, Israel had a diplomatic representation in Seoul, but that it was closed by then Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. The Koreans refuse to open the embassy because of Arab pressure.

Criticizes U.S. Role

TA062125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has criticized the role played by the United States in the talks with Lebanon. The foreign minister said that the U.S. mediator keeps an eye on the Lebanese lest they get too close to Israel and arouse the anger of the other Arab countries against them. He pointed out that the very fact that Washington is largely involved in Lebanon thanks to Israel should not prevent us from achieving our basic objectives in Lebanon.

Referring to President Reagan's declaration that Israel must speedily withdraw from Lebanon, Minister Shamir said that large countries could make big mistakes but that the small countries ought not to always pay for them. He emphasized that the IDF would quickly get out of Lebanon if the Lebanese representatives to the talks signed the Israeli proposals. He stressed that from the military point of view, Israel has nothing to do in Lebanon, and that the IDF is there only in order to make sure that terror does not return to the area.

The foreign minister was speaking before Herut Movement members in Haifa.

More on Shamir Comments

TA070730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the United States had achieved its extensive involvement in Lebanon thanks to Israel, and that it should not interfere with Israel's achieving its basic objectives in Lebanon. Our correspondent Haviva Roger reports on more of his comments:

[Roger] We should not be preached to against conquering a foreign country. We do not need sermons, threats, or the U.S. President's pressure on us to leave Lebanon. Israel was the only one who during the years of the civil war helped those who wanted to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty.

[Begin Shamir recording] No one rushed to Lebanon's aid, not even the United States. And the gates of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut were locked to those few who, in those days, were faithful to and fought for the idea of Lebanese independence. [end recording]

[Roger] Shamir said that the U.S. President's declaration mixing political differences of opinion with the supply of arms to Israel was made to encourage King Husayn to join the peace negotiations and the U.S. peace initiative. However, who can believe in a peace initiative in which every side involved requires the PLO's go-ahead. We will never conduct negotiations with the PLO and we will never make peace with it, the foreign minister said. This U.S. policy may perhaps serve its temporary interests, but not the true interest of peace and stability in the Middle East.

[Begin Shamir recording] Big countries can make big mistakes and the little countries do not have to always pay for those mistakes. [end recording]

LEBANON SAID SOFTENING FROM FEAR OF IDF PULLBACK

TA060957 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Apr 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Tuvya Mendelson]

[Excerpt] Fear of a partial unilateral withdrawal by Israel following the deadlock in the negotiations is causing substantial movement in the Lebanese position. This was the assessment by political sources in Jerusalem yesterday evening at the end of talks held in Khaldah.

The political sources think that both President Amin al-Jumayyil and the U.S. Administration have reached the conclusion that Israel will have no choice but to unilaterally withdraw to the Al-'Awwali River, and that to prevent such a move there are indications of a tendency for concessions in the previous Lebanese positions concerning the security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

After the round of talks yesterday in Khaldah, the sides declined to make any statements to the press. As political observers see it, this fact may also point to some progress toward breaking the deadlock in the negotiations. At the same time, Jerusalem and Beirut are expecting the return to the region of U.S. envoy Philip Habib, who is preparing to return to Israel toward the end of the week. So far it is not known in Jerusalem whether Habib will be bringing any initiatives or new ideas for advancing the negotiations.

The feeling expressed by political elements and observers in Jerusalem yesterday was that all the sides understand unless there is some change and a formula is found for breaking the deadlock in the negotiations, "something will have to happen" since the situation cannot continue as it is now.

As stated, the fear of a unilateral Israeli withdrawal, the weakening of the Phalangists' status, the increased danger of friction among the various forces in Lebanon, and the fear of a confrontation with the Syrians have brought all the sides to the point where progress in the negotiations seems very vital.

The Cabinet, which is convening this morning for its weekly session, postponed from Sunday because of the holiday, will hear a report from the foreign and defense ministers about the talks with Lebanon. Though part of the session will be devoted to economic matters, it is expected that the Cabinet will also discuss last week's Soviet warnings, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's declaration about the supply of the F-16's to Israel, and last week's events in the West Bank.

Haddad Status Discussed

TA071116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The Isareli and Lebanese delegations reconvened in Qiryat Shemona today and discussed the status of Major Sa'd Haddad. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht report that David Kimche, the head of the Israeli delegation, emphasized that for 5 years Haddid proved he is capable of realizing security arrangements in the region in a manner which is satisfactory to Israel. He detailed the problems involved in guaranteeing these arrangements as Israel demands [doreshet].

The Lebanese representatives have not yet accepted Israel's position regarding Haddad, but the spokesman of their delegation told our correspondent that everything is open to discussion.

SPORADIC FIGHTING REPORTED IN LEBANON

IDF Soldiers Hurt

TA060723 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Metulla -- Two Israeli soldiers were wounded last night when their vehicle was struck by rocket propelled grenades fired from an ambush near 'Ayn Zhalta in central Lebanon. They were evacuated by helicopter to Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

Large units of the Israel Defense Forces, using flares, searched the area where the attack took place. The road where the ambush occurred runs along the As-Safa River, one of the tributaries of the Ad-Damur River, and is lined with gorges and dense vegetation providing ample concealment.

This morning, the IDF is expected to conduct intensive searches of the area up to the Syrian front, to determine whether the attackers infiltrated from Syrian lines.

Two Israeli soldiers were killed and two wounded several weeks ago in the same region, when their vehicle was ambushed by terrorists who pretended that their car had broken down.

Christian-Druze Clash

TA061939 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1929 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus cites Radio Free Lebanon as saying that heavy exchanges of fire are now taking place in the Bhamdun Region between Christians and Druze. The exchanges of fire began at 2000 this evening and the IDF is not intervening in the meantime. This was reported by the Lebanese radio station.

Attackers Reportedly From Syria

TA062118 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The terrorist squad which attacked an IDF patrol in the Ash-Shuf mountains yesterday came from Syrian territory some 4 km away from the site of the incident. This has emerged from an investigation conducted by an IDF patrol following the squad's trails. Two IDF soldiers were wounded in the attack.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that it emerged that the tracks lead into Syrian territory in the area of 'Ayn Darah. A large blood stain was discovered at the site where the squad, which was apparently composed of three people, attacked, and it is assumed that one of its members was hit in the fire salvo returned by the IDF patrol.

Our correspondent further notes that it is very difficult to chase people in this area because it is mountainous, rugged, and heavily forested.

BRITISH TV REPORTS ISRAELI POW'S TO TUNIS

TA061622 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The Fatah organization has transferred from Syria to Tunis the six Israeli soldiers in its hands. This was reported last night by the Independent Television Network in Britain. The TV program said this was done for fear Israel might try to release them through a military operation. Yosi Melman watched the program in London:

[Begin recording] [Melman] The six prisoners in Fatah's hands were photographed in a closed room with its windows covered by blankets. They sat on the floor and seemed to be in good condition as far as one can judge from the television program. The interviewer talked with them in Hebrew and it was related that the interview was conducted on the Syrian-Lebanese border region, before they were transferred to Tunis, according to the program.

[Israeli captive -- recorded earlier] I am ('Ezra) Abutbul. I am 19 years old, from 'Akko. I feel all right. I want to tell my parents not to worry. My condition is all right. I want to tell them to hold out until this entire affair is over.

[Melman] During the rest of the report another two captives were interviewed, although their names were not given. They told about their activities during their period of captivity and their attitude toward the Fatah people holding them.

At the end of the report there was an interview with a Palestinian who was introduced as the commander of the guards. His rank and name were not specified. He said that he was convinced that the condition of the two additional Israeli soldiers held by Ahmad Jibril's organization is as good as that of the six prisoners under his charge. However, the guards' commander did not have additional information about their condition or their location. [end recording]

VILLAGE LEAGUES CALLED 'PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS'

TA062131 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2125 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Bet She'an, 6 Apr (ITIM) -- The chairman of the village leagues in Judaea and Samaria, Mustafa Dudin, this evening declared that henceforth the village leagues would be called "the Palestinian organizations" and called on the Israeli Government to open peace negotiations with them rather than look for elements outside Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza lest the opportunity slips away.

Appearing at an Arab-Jewish dialogue at the Matnas Club in Bet She'an this evening, Dudin said that all the wars between the Jews and the Arabs have been to no avail and therefore the only logical conclusion should be that a way for coexistence amid a dialogue and with understanding should be found. "The Arabs will not throw the Jews into the sea, and the Jews will not drive the Arabs to the sea. Therefore, let us learn how to live alongside one another peacefully," he said.

GOODMAN GETS LIFE FOR TEMPLE MOUNT MURDER

TA071102 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1035 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The Jerusalem District Court has sentenced Allan Goodman to life imprisonment for the murder he committed on the Temple Mount about a year ago. The court also sentenced him to 10 years for each of the counts of attempted murder he was convicted of, 20 of the 40 years to be served simultaneously with the other prison term. Goodman, who was allowed to address the court, said that he did what he did because of an inevitable urge that resulted from tens of thousands of attacks by Arabs against Jews.

As reported, the three judges rejected the defense argument that Goodman is a paranoid schizophrenic, and that he was unaware of his actions. In his verdict, Justice Dov Eytan writes that in street language Goodman would have been called nuts, but that legally speaking he is responsible for his acts despite his badly disturbed mind. Our correspondent Yotam Yaqir reports from the court that the defense will appeal the sentence.

POLL SHOWS PUBLIC SPLIT ON LEBANON WAR

TA300847 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Mar 83 p 3

[Pori poll: "There Are 40.9 Percent Who Justify the War; 39.5 Percent Who Only Justify Driving the Terrorists Away, and About 11.2 Percent Who Reject the War Completely"]

[Text] The Israeli public continues to be divided in its views about the moves of the war in Lebanon. The numbers of those who justify all the war's moves are almost identical with those who only justify the campaign's restricted objective, that is to drive the terrorists 40 km away from the northern border. However, 11.2 percent completely reject the Lebanon war. This emerges from a nationwide public opinion poll by the Pori Institute, conducted at the request of HA'ARETZ at the beginning of March.

Of the general public, 40.9 percent justify all the moves of the war, compared with 39.5 percent who only justify driving the terrorists to 40 km from the border. In the previous poll (HA'ARETZ 10 February 1983) 40.7 percent justified all the war's moves and 38.5 percent only justified driving the terrorists away from the border. The poll's editor, Pori Director Refa'el Gil, notes that in July, when the IDF operation was at its peak, 65.9 percent justified all the war's moves.

Among those who restrict the Lebanon war to only the objective of driving the terrorists away from the northern border, the most prominent are educated people, self-employed or in administrative professions, those with a high income level, those originating from Europe, and women.

Among those who justify all the war's moves: The more prominent are people with low educational levels, manual workers, people with low incomes, people originating in Asia and Africa, and men.

As in the past, 11.2 percent, as stated, do not justify the war at all, and the rest of those asked expressed no views on the subject. The poll covered a representative sample of men and women who were given personal interviews throughout the country.

ALGERIA

CHADLI BENDJEDID TALKS WITH ZAMBIA'S KAUNDA

LD070925 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The Algerian-Zambian political talks between President and party Secretary General Chadli Bendjedid and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda continued this morning. The members of the two delegations then joined the talks.

The Algerian side comprised member of the Political Bureau and Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi; Minister of Housing and Construction Ahmed Ali Ghazali; Muhyi ad-Din [name indistinct], adviser to the presidency; (Mashar) as-Sayyid, official responsible for interparty relations; Ben Ghazal, director of the Africa Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Ambassador Mohamed Kannu.

The Zambian side comprised Mr Kamanga, head of the party political and legal committee; Deputy Foreign Minister [as heard] Goma; (Shiliba), official with special responsibilities at the Zambian Embassy in Algiers; Phiri, presidential assistant for political affairs; Punabantu, presidential assistant for press affairs; Mulaisho, presidential assistant for economic affairs, and ambassador and deputy secretary of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry [name indistinct].

The talks dealt with international affairs and in particular issues relating to the completion of the liberation of Africa, participation in achieving stability and developing of cooperation among its countries, supporting the OAU, and means of supporting Arab-African cooperation encompassing political and economic fields.

LIBYA

GREEN BOOK CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS UNDER WAY

LD062002 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Banghazi, 6 Apr (JANA) -- The first international conference on the thought of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Green Book, will open tomorrow morning in Banghazi under the patronage and with the participation of the thinker and teacher Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. It will be attended by leaders and political personalities in their intellectual capacities, around 1,000 participants and 100 journalists from all over the world, and 50 intellectuals and researchers from the Jamahiriyah.

This international conference will open at 0900 tomorrow in Qar Yunis University. All the preparations have been completed. Two conference sessions will be held each day: a morning session from 0900-1300, and an evening session from 1700-2100. Three separate halls have been allocated for listening to the submitted papers, and 20 minutes has been allocated for the reading of each paper at the rate of 6 papers per session. The rest of the time in the sessions is left for discussing the submitted papers.

IDEOLOGICAL DIALOGUE WITH LEBANESE VIEWED

LD061720 Tripoli JANA in English 1625 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 23, Apr 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- An extensive ideological dialogue was yesterday conducted between the revolution's leader, Colonel

al-Qadhdhafi, and lecturers at Lebanon's universities who have arrived in Jamahiriyah as adherents to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's civilizational thought.

The dialogue centred on the third international theory formulated by the revolutionary thinker to resolve the political, economic and social problems, and to realise humanity's happiness in a new era, that of the jamahiriyah (mass) societies. Reference was made to the correct concepts of the revolution's green ideology to achieve freedom and destroy oppression. This ideology provides radical solutions to all social problems and is a genuine expression of the peoples' aspirations.

A major part of the dialogue was related to Arab conditions, whereby Lebanon is regarded as an active arena in which Arab interaction takes place. The Lebanese people play a major role in the Arab nation's struggle against the Zionist enemy and imperialist forces.

This is the second meeting between the revolution's leader and Lebanese university lecturers. Last year, he had an ideological dialogue with 64 such lecturers. He affirmed that Lebanon "is passing through a tragic period for the Arab nation's sake, while the Arabs are behaving like bystanders, as though the Zionist invasion, occupation and attempts to force the surrender of Lebanon does not concern the Arabs."

MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 6 APRIL

LD061659 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1626 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Apr (JANA) -- Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

He told JANA at Tripoli International Airport that he was happy to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He said: I bear a message from King Hassan II to his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, in connection with the current Arab situation and issues of common concern. Brother Boucetta stressed in his statement that there was a pressing need for such consultations and exchange of viewpoints, especially at this stage through which our Arab nation is passing; there was also a need for serious and unified action for our sacred Arab cause, namely the Palestinian cause and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories.

Visits Jallud

LD062116 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Apr (JANA) -- Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud this evening received Brother M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES BENIN PRESIDENT KEREKOU

LD062125 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Banghazi, 6 Apr (JANA) -- The brother leader of the revolution has received President of Benin Ahmad Kerekou, who arrived in Banghazi this evening to participate in the first international conference on the thought of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi -- the Green Book.

MOROCCO

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS ON VISIT TO ALGERIA

LD070850 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Driss Basri reported on his recent working visit to Algeria. He led an important delegation at the invitation of his counterpart, Algerian M'hamed Yala, which followed the historic meeting on the Algerian border in February between His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Chadli Benjedid. The minister informed the Council of Ministers of the issues discussed at the joint meetings and of the procedures to be followed by the various committees established to study the matters on the agenda.

The minister also informed the council of the various points agreed upon in the protocol of the meetings: first, the gradual but early resumption of movement of persons and possessions; second, the resumption of air travel between the two countries; third, the resumption of movement by railways; fourth, continuation of cooperation at the local level concerning civil protection; fifth, coordination between local authorities on the borders of both countries; sixth, exchange of visits at the level of officials from various sectors -- especially post, tourism, and trade; seventh, the establishment of a joint working committee to study other issues on the agenda concerning social and humanitarian topics.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI RECEIVES TUNISIAN OFFICIAL, MESSAGE

EA061211 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] President of the Republic Jafar Muhammad Numayri has received a verbal message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba on bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries and current developments in the Arab and African regions. The message was conveyed by Mr Abdelaziz Lasram, Tunisian minister of national economy, when the president received him in his office at Friendship Hall this morning in the presence of Mr Faruq Ibrahim al-Maqbul, minister of cooperation, commerce, and supply, and his excellency the ambassador of Tunisia in Khartoum.

After the meeting, Mr Faruq al-Maqbul explained that President Numayri had pointed to the need to remove all obstacles in the way of economic cooperation between the two countries in order to strengthen such cooperation and bring it in line with the intimate political relations between the two brotherly countries for the benefit of the peoples of both countries. Mr Lasram explained that on the basis of political will and the directives of Presidents Numayri and Bourguiba they will make intensive efforts to strengthen bilateral trade and economic relations.

'WIDESCALE' MILITARY INSURGENCY REPORTED

GF070916 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 7 Apr (WAKH) -- A state of full alert has been declared among the Sudanese Armed Forces following the escalation of insurgence in southern Sudan on a wide scale in the past few days as hundreds of southern soldiers and officers disobeyed their orders of transfer to the north and disappeared into the jungle with their weapons.

The Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ reported that fighting took place between a northern military unit and southern forces at (Bantio) garrison in the Upper Nile Province and resulted in the deaths of many military personnel from both sides, among whom were 17 northern officers and soldiers. About 200 northern soldiers and officers fled into the jungle with their weapons.

Following the (Bantio) garrison incident, insurgency and mutiny widened to include other areas of the southern region: among them Akobo and Juba, the region's capital. Moreover, the insurrection is codenamed Anya Nya II in reference to the first insurrection that took place between 1955 and 1972.

Furthermore, the newspaper quoted its correspondent in the Sudanese capital as saying that the central authorities in Khartoum have sent more military reinforcements to the areas of insurgency which threatens to widen the area of fighting. The authorities launched a widescale detention campaign among the political leaders of the south, including the current deputy prime minister of the regional government.

Also, the General Command of the People's Armed Forces has declared a state of full alert among the Army ranks for any expected militant popular upsurges that will threaten the government. Soldiers have been deployed in important and strategic positions in the capital and activity has been reduced to a great extent.

JANA: Numayri Confirms Unrest

LD051653 Tripoli JANA in English 1431 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada Thani 22, Apr 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- Stooge Numayri has officially confirmed the breakout of unrest, troubles, and military rebellion against his regime in the southern province. The issue has raised a heated discussion inside the Sudanese People's Assembly yesterday.

MOROCCAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR NUMAYRI

JN061106 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Apr (SUNA) -- Abdellatif Filali, Minister of Moroccan Court and personal envoy of Moroccan King Hassan II, arrived here last night with a written message to President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri from the Moroccan monarch. The message is related to the emergency Arab summit conference, scheduled to be held during the next few days.

In an arrival statement, the Moroccan envoy stressed the importance of holding the Arab summit considering the current circumstances through which the Arab world is passing. He noted with pleasure the initiative to reopen the borders between Algeria and Morocco, expressing the hope that such a fraternal spirit would prevail among all the Arab countries that experience disputes and problems.

The Moroccan envoy is expected to visit Somalia, the YAR, and PDRY on similar missions.

TUNISIA

MOROCCAN ENVOY, BOUCETTA DISCUSS ARAB SUMMIT

LD061114 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Tunis, 6 Apr (MAP) -- Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has met with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. He also had a meeting with his Tunisian opposite number, Beji Caid es-Sebsi. The Moroccan minister and special envoy of His Majesty King Hassan II arrived in Tunis last night with a message from His Majesty King Hassan II to President Habib Bourguiba, and with similar messages to the leaders of the PLO and Arab League Secretary General Cheddi Klibi concerning the situation in the Arab world following the recent developments in the Arab arena.

In a press statement, Boucetta said that he came to invite Tunisia, the PLO, and the Arab League to attend an extraordinary Arab summit planned in Morocco in the next few days. He said that this summit would evaluate the situation in the Arab world and consider what common action would be done at the Arab level concerning the Palestine problem and Arab issues in general.

Boucetta was asked about the reasons for this summit. He explained that a number of Arab leaders see that the current situation requires Arab consultations at the highest level, with the participation of all Arab countries, recalling that special envoys of His Majesty King Hassan II have been sent to the Arab countries to deliver similar invitations. Boucetta expressed the hope that all Arab countries will attend, because this is the wish of all the Arabs. He described the recent developments in the great Arab Maghreb as very important and expressed confidence that they will have good effect on the edification of the great Arab Maghreb and advance the Arab causes in general.

BULGARIA'S TANCHEV REPORTS ON MEETING WITH MZALI

LD052213 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Premier Mohamed Mzali received Petur Tanchev, deputy chairman of the State Council and secretary general of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, who stated following the meeting that the talk dealt with the visitswhich the two countries' prime ministers would exchange soon, and their importance to the development and consolidation of Tunisian-Bulgarian cooperation. Tanchev pointed out that this cooperation would develop in various fields and in particular in industry and agriculture. Present at the meeting were M. Kooli and the Bulgarian ambassador to Tunisia.

UGANDA, TANZANIA SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

EA011324 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Uganda and Tanzania have signed an agreement to set up a permanent joint ministerial commission to promote cooperation in all forms of economic, social, commercial, technical, and scientific matters. The agreement was signed on behalf of the Uganda Government by the permanent secretary, Ministry of Regional Cooperation, Mr Nyakimwe, while the deputy secretary in the Tanzanian Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, Mr (Abbas), signed on behalf of his country.

The meeting of the two countries, which has been going on at Entebbe, stressed that cooperation in all matters on trade, commerce, and industry will be done through exchange of visits by the two countries' respective chambers of commerce, by participating in each others' trade affairs, establishing a customs cooperation agreement, and mutual assistance in the fields of industrial development, training, and management.

On transport, communication, and energy, the two countries agreed on joint efforts to improve roads, railways, and air transport, synchronize railway traffic, improve telecommunication links between them, and also speed up the realization of the Masaka-Bukoba electric power project.

The meeting noted with satisfaction the excellent security situation along their common border which they agreed to maintain and strengthen by coordinating policies on immigration, prevention and detection of crime, eradication of cattle rustling, and establishment of police and immigration posts at appropriate points along the common border. Cooperating in the training of police and immigration personnel will also be enhanced.

The next meeting is to be held in Tanzania on a date to be fixed. After the initialling of the agreement, the Tanzanian delegation left for home.

ETHIOPIA

ERITREAN OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON ETHIOPIAN POW'S

GF051300 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Doha, 5 Apr (QNA) -- Ethiopia has refused to acknowledge its prisoner-soldiers captured by the Eritrean revolutionaries during their battles against the Ethiopian forces last year and during the first quarter of this year. The POWs now number more than 2,000. It has refused to receive them through UNRWA.

In a statement to QNA, Mohamed Osman (Abu Baker) representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces in the Gulf, said Ethiopia's refusal to acknowledge its prisoners and receive them will incur great expenses on the Eritrean revolution because it will have to provide for and take care of them in camps according to the Geneva convention on POWs.

(Abu Baker), who is currently visiting Doha, noted that the Ethiopian forces destroyed two Eritrean villages, Fode and (Bin Bana), and killed more than 100 villagers last week in retaliation for its defeat in the battles that took place with the factions of the Eritrean revolution in (Al-Jash) area last week and resulted in the killing of 150 Ethiopians and the capturing of 20 others.

EPLF ON OPERATIONS AGAINST ETHIOPIAN FORCES

EA041625 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] issued a press statement from its office here in Mogadishu this morning stating that their forces have killed or wounded over 1,690 soldiers of the black Abyssinian regime. The press statement adds that in bitter fighting during the past week at (Nakfa), Hal-Hal, (Gebialbou), Decamere, (Haaeza), and other places, the EPLF liberation fighters inflicted major reverses and humiliating defeats on the black colonialist Abyssinian forces.

The press statement says that in those engagements several hundred Abyssinian soldiers were taken prisoner, a large quantity of military equipment and weapons was captured, and tanks, armored personnel carriers, and other military equipment were burned. The report adds that bitter clashes are still raging at (Gali Alego), Hal-Hal, and elsewhere in the Eritrean territory administered by Abyssinia.

The press release concludes by saying that no weapons, foreign soldiers, attacks, or genocide can intimidate the people of Eritrea, who are determined to liberate their land at all costs in terms of time, men, and material.

TPLF CLAIMS 1,500 ETHIOPIAN TROOPS KILLED

LD062217 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The Tigre Peoples Liberation Front, TPLF, today released a press statement here in Mogadishu saying that its forces recently killed 1,500 Abyssinian soldiers. The statement from the TPLF office here in Mogadishu adds that in a recent bitter engagement the intrepid forces of the TPLF also captured 46 soldiers while over 200 Abyssinian soldiers were wounded. The fighting took place during the past week at Gudguda in the west of Tigre and at (Amire) in the west of the country.

According to the statement from the TPLF office in Mogadishu, the gallant Tigrai forces captured a large quantity of military hardware including tanks, transport vehicles, APC's and a large amount of ammunition. The report adds that the TPLF forces and those of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front jointly captured a convoy moving between Addis Ababa and (?Assab) and killed 50 Abyssinian soldiers.

COMMISSIONER APPEALS FOR INCREASED DROUGHT AID

EA042127 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Adugna Shimeles has appealed to charitable organizations to step up their donations to our compatriots affected by man-made and natural disasters. Comrade Adugna Shimeles, commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and COPWE Central Committee member, addressed his appeal to all charitable organizations represented in Addis Ababa during a briefing he gave today on the prevailing drought in the country and our compatriots who are greatly affected by it. He asked the organizations to cooperate in supplying aid to our affected cpmpatriots according to the commissions directives. He asked them to concentrate their aid on spare parts to be used for the vehicles transporting relief aid to our affected compatriots, tents and medicines. He called on them to make objective reports on conditions in the affected areas by visiting them.

SOMALIA

SOVIETS 'EXACERBATE' CRISES IN HORN OF AFRICA

EA042242 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Kremlin has recently done all it can to increase its armaments output and broaden the markets for the sale of the arms. This is the topic of our commentary written by Abdallahi Hasan (Fadal Sood) and read by Mohamed Ahmad Haji:

To ensure the success of its policies, the Kremlin goes to all lengths to create friction and tension among many countries in the developing world that have common borders. The Kremlin leadership also puts a lot of effort into fanning flames in all areas where crisis and enmity exist. The truth is that if you study the Kremlin's global policies you will come to the conclusion that the regime consists of nothing but murderers, killers, gangsters, and destroyers of the world's defenseless women, children, and old people. They also oppose international nuclear disarmament.

Russia's activities in the Horn of Africa are clearly indicative of the description of the Kremlin we have given above. The Russians fan and exacerbate crises in the Horn of Africa, Afghanistan, Poland, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and now, finally, the USSR is in full opposition to the achievement of a meaningful peace in the Middle East and Lebanon.

In pursuit of its expansionist policies the Moscow regime has also built military bases in Abyssinian territory. It has assembled Russian, Cuban, and other soldiers of its allies in Abyssinian territory. The Russians are not only stiring up conflicts and crises in Abyssinia, but the Moscow regime also continues to apply warlike policies in Angola, Libya, and other countries whose sovereignty and independence have been totally usurped by it.

In the face of this a recent commentary written by Vladimir Borisov and broadcast by Radio Moscow is astonishing. In that commentary the USSR accuses Somalia of following an expansionist policy, but the truth is that Vladimir Borisov has ignored the Kremlin's global policies. The world is fully aware of the Kremlin's expansionist policy, its provocative aggression and its support and encouragement of its surrogates in the world. Russia's global policies, and the crises it has created, have resulted in an exodus of refugees from their homes to other parts of the world. The flight of the refugees has been occasioned by wanton destruction, genocide, and oppression on the part of Russian neocolonialism and of its stooges in many parts of the world.

As a superpower, should not the Kremlin leadership perform an objective world role by striving for global peace and stability? Why has the Kremlin leadership turned a blind eye to the refugees perishing in many parts of the world? Why has the Kremlin leadership savagely decided to trade the humanitarian relief aid given to drought-stricken Abyssinia by international relief agencies for armaments for the terrorist regime of Addis Ababa led by Megistu Haile Marian? Can the drought-stricken Abyssinians eat arms and other military hardware? Why has the Kremlin leadership stooped so low as to steal in broad daylight grain and other food aid for the drought-stricken Abyssinian and to ship it to Moscow in exchange for military hardware for the regime in Addis Ababa?

ENVOY: ETHIOPIA HAS 300,000 TROOPS ON BORDER

EA052310 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] ambassador to the United States Mr Mahmud Haji Nur said yesterday that the Abyssinian regime has deployed 300,000 troops along the so-called common border with the SDR. The Abyssinian regime and its allies, supported by 20,000 Cuban soldiers, are now poised to create confusion in the SDR. The ambassador added that the Abyssinian regime, armed and instructed by Moscow, has become the Havana of Africa. Mr Mahmud Haji Nur said the only way to end the Horn of African problem is through negotiations involving the colonized people of Abyssinia and the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the region. He went on to say that Abyssinia, supported by Russian and Cuban troops, has repeatedly raided the SDR.

TANZANIA

NYERERE ANNOUNCES CRACKDOWN AGAINST RACKETEERS

EA052231 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Speech by President Julius Nyerere to party and government leaders of Dar es Salaam region at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in Dar es Salaam -- live]

[Excerpts] Ndugu countrymen, Ndugu Chairman, I have convened this meeting of leaders from Dar es Salaam to use the occasion to explain government activities that ought to be explained so that they might be understood. If they are not understood they could cause me or all of us problems. I therefore thank you, Chairman, for responding to this emergency call to hold this session, and I will now use it.

On the night of the 25th and in the early hours of the 26th the government ordered the police in all the 20 regions of mainland Tanzania to search houses and stores belonging to all the people we thought were sabotaging the country's economy. Thus on the night of 25th and the early hours of the 26th we did this quietly. We saw the outcome, and later we repeated the exercise on the 26th [as heard] of last month. These activities were seen and carried out quietly throughout the country.

But recently I was in Dodoma opening a meeting of the Elders' Council. In their message they explained the problems of black-marketeering and asked the government to help them. I realized I could not avoid telling them that this task had already begun, and I explained it to them. Later I thought it would be better to elaborate on the matter, more than I did during the Dodoma meeting.

So I now say: We have arrested them and we have been carrying out that task, which is still continuing. People are being arrested and we are carrying out searches. Once it is established that they are liable to be arrested, then they are apprehended. The task is being carried out nationwide, and we thought it would be right that the whole country should understand. So first, we want the country to know what we are doing, and second, if people can understand properly, then they should assist us to continue with this task.

So, what sort of people are these? I do not wish to use this opportunity to explain our economic problems which are known. They are big problems and all of us know them. So I need not waste your time explaining. Nor do I want to fool my compatriots by saying: Now, compatriots, you should not worry now that we have started arresting black-marketeers; our problems are over.

This is not true. This is not true at all. We cannot end economic problems which are destabilizing the whole world by arresting black-marketeers. So our economic problems are going to persist.

We have problems. What are we to do with such people? We are still debating on how to deal with these people. Normally we send such people to court where they are charged, and if they are found guilty they are punished, and if they are not guilty they are set free. I have not decided whether we should really send them to court. [laughter] And we also call on magistrates to forgive us on this matter, that is, for hesitating to send such people to court. [laughter and applause] And this issue must be explained to the people. If we desist from sending them to court, we want the people to understand our position, because normally they are sent to court and some are set free, as the magistrate is obliged to consider the evidence -- who was there and the rest of it -- and the black-marketeers engage solicitors, and if you have a lot of money, you employ competent lawyers. So, in court they play hide and seek. While we are engaged in matters of life and death, our colleagues are playing soccer and tag. [laughter] And one can be set free even if one is an offender. And sometimes one is found guilty.

In an incident about which I have been reading -- it was about tusks, and every elephant has two -- this fellow was involved with more than 1,000 tusks. He had in his possession tusks worth hundreds of thousands of shillings. He is then found guilty but is fined only 2,000 shillings. To him this is like a game. He enters the court, they charge him and he pays 2,000 shillings, which he might even have in his pocket. He pays it and goes back to do the same thing again. So, we might refrain from sending such people to court. And I want the people to understand why we are doing so. [laughter and applause]

I told the Dodoma elders that in other countries such offenders are shot. You call in a firing squad. They do not appear in a regular court. Provided their loot is found, they are shot and everything is over. Today I was reading about an incident in Mozambique where some were to be shot and everything was over. We in Tanzania do not shoot anyone -- and I would like you to understand our position -- but in view of the fact that we do not shoot, such grabbers could claim: In Tanzania we do not get shot so we can do what we like.

This time we are going to employ other means. The Constitution gives us such powers. I have certain powers invested in me and I shall employ them, and if I do not possess such powers and if I realize I do not have them, then I shall call on MPs to grant them to me. [applause] We will not let anyone use the law as a means of sabotaging us.

We are all adults and as such we do not wish to be unjust to anyone. So once we are satisfied that such people are guilty of a crime, we shall give them hoes and they will have to till the land for a very long time. [aplause and laughter] We shall take over all their property. [applause] There is a danger in sending such a man to court. His property might be returned to him because it is referred to as his, when we know full well that it is grabbed property, but still it is returned to him. Even if he is fined, the property is returned to him and even if he is imprisoned the property is left with him, when in actual fact it is property acquired by grabbing. So, this time, we shall seek other ways: Those engaged in black-marketeering will have to work.

But now let us assist each other. So, I call on government leaders, I give them instructions to look for farms in good areas, as we have the money with which to begin the exercise. At present we have about 17.8 million shillings. This is the money found in private homes, not property. These are big thieves. They keep a lot of money at home. It is not banked, nor do they pay any taxes on it. It is only there to be used for illegal transactions.

Prime Minister Sokoine Comments

EA062322 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Prime Minister Ndugu Edward Sokoine said today that 300 people have been detained in the crackdown against racketeers and those sabotaging the country's economy that began on the 25th of last month. Ndugu Sokoine said 70 percent of these are Tanzanians; the rest are mainly Tanzanians of Asian origin, 8 or 9 percent Somalis, and 3 percent possess British passports.

The prime minister said this in an interview with a BBC correspondent in Dar es Salaam today. He stated that the crackdown classifies economic saboteurs into various groups. The first group consists of those who sabotage foreign currency, while the second comprises those who smuggle goods out of the country in contravention of the law. The goods include razor blades, medicines, salt, sugar, money, and agricultural produce.

Ndugu Sokoine also said the government has arrested people who hoard essential goods that are lacking and then sell them at exhorbitant prices with the aim of making themselves rich. He said that heads of parastatal organizations and government departments who are suspected of collaborating with racketeers have also been arrested. The prime minister explained that although the crackdown will not solve the economic problems facing the nation, this measure will help to reduce some of the problems.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH NIGERIA ANNOUNCED

AB061843 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Tanzania and Nigeria have agreed to cooperate in the fields of education, media, and culture. This was disclosed in Dar es Salaam by the Tanzanian information and culture minister, Mr Daudi Mwakawago. He stated that the two countries would also arrange visits between their media representatives. The first team of Nigerian pressmen would arrive in Tanzania later in the year.

UGANDA

U.S. SENATOR ACCUSED OF AIDING GUERRILLAS

EA061203 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The official Ugandan Army magazine MKOMBOZI -- LIBERATION -- has accused U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield from Oregon of secretly liaising with the leader of a Libyan-supported Ugandan freedom movement and passing important reports to the guerrillas fighting to overthrow the government of President Milton Obote. In its edition of last month, which came out today, the paper said the senator has been liaising with the former Uganda Cabinet minister Mr Grace Ibingira and supplying him with information designed to help the rebels in their fight against the government and Ugandan Army.

The MKOMBOZI paper said that an executive meeting of the Ugandan movement recently gave Senator Hatfield a vote of thanks for his support of the guerrillas. The report did not specify what type of information Senator Hatfield was alleged to be passing to the guerrillas.

CHAD

BARDAI RADIO REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY 6 APRIL

Habre's Troops Desert

AB061918 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] We have informed you that several hundred of the national annihilation forces [Habre's forces] and their allies, have deserted their ranks to take refuge in neighboring countries. Despite the intoxication campaign by puppet Hissein Habre, which makes national and international opinion believe in the existence of a so-called Islamic legion, hundreds of fighters on the contrary [words indistinct]. Since that day, they had two of their brothers whom they know perfectly well. This is the reason why some of those who were rescued and who succeeded in running back to Ndjamena could not believe, at any time, the blatant lies broadcast on the radio by criminal Hissein Habre. For our part, we are prepared to welcome our Ndjamena colleagues in order to assess the situation in the field.

Zairian Soldiers Join Habre

AB061951 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Valiant freedom fighters, you can be assured of the unflinching support of the Chadian people who rely on you to put an end to the national annihilation forces [Habre's forces]. With the gallantry and determination that you demonstrated on 20 February, you are capable of meeting the challenge and making your parents and your friends -- living in (?perpetual) agony -- happy. While we are talking to you, the mad dog of imperialism is trying to internationalize the Chadian conflict by calling on Zairian mercenaries. These mercenaries are stationed at the (Ajifoze) air base where they have joined some Chadians before being sent to the (Oumbrayer) region. Freedom fighters, some Zairian puppets are still there. They know you are good fighters and brave people. They have come to dance the Salongo [Zairian dance] in order to earn their living. What did the Zairian soldiers do in the face of some handfuls of Katanga gendarmes? They threw their weapons away and ran for their dear lives. Will they have the courage to defend somebody like Hissein Habre about whom they know little? What will Mobutu tell the parents of these soldiers he sent to certain death? As for you freedom fighters, be vigilant because the enemy is crafty and can assume many forms.

'Time for Mobilization'

AB070909 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] No, Hissein Habre is not the right man to be in Chad. We say this with all deference to the dictator marshall in Zaire. Hissein Habre was the imposter condemned to death for his numerous crimes. No, Chad, which has been devastated by so many years of war declared and maintained by Hissein Habre, cannot be led by its destroyer. To all Chadians living within the country -- peasants, traders, stock breeders, civil servants, young men, and women -- the time for mobilization has come. Organize yourselves to block the way of the fascist dictatorship of Hissein Habre. Soldiers, noncommissioned officers of all the progressive and anti-imperialist forces, be ready to wash out the cynical insult by the FAN and the neocolonialist forces which are enemies of Chad and Africa.

U.S., French, Israeli Activity

AB062140 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, Hissein Habre, the mad dog, is planning to bring some foreign troops in to Sarh and Moyen Chari, in the southern part of the country. There is no doubt that the unavowed aim of this foreign presence is try to prevent the progress of the liberation struggle and thus to destabilize all progressive regimes in Africa. This is clear. This plan is financed by the United States and Israel. The foreign troops will pass through Zaire before arriving at Sarh. To this end, the American State Department has just sent a CIA agent to Ndjamena as a diplomat. His mission is to ensure success where his predecessors failed. The new American diplomat is to impose the choice of Hissein Habre on the Chadian people despite his unpopularity and his cruelty.

Meanwhile, France has recalled its representative in Ndjamena for consultation. Is it to assign to him the same role as his American colleague? What is certain is that French troops -- as everybody knows -- are assisting the nationallannihilation forces in the south of the country where they are openly fighting troops of the national liberation army. Moreover, the warlike statements made last Sunday by Hissein Habre, the mad dog, in the wake of the arrival in Ndjamena of the new U.S. ambassador, clearly demonstrate the Americans' intention to internationalize the Chadian conflict.

After plotting to have Libya condemned by the UN Security Council, Washington is still looking for an excuse to interfere openly in Chad's internal affairs. There is a plan to invent the type of scenario used in vain against the territory of El Salvador by the CIA and against the stability of the revolutionary state of Nicaragua. [Words indistinct] American circles for the terrorist activities by the Reagan administration, an independent and sovereign state.

Rebel Hissein Habre wants to divert national and international opinion from the military and political impasse in which he has found himself and more precisely, from the defeat of his own forces in the face of the national liberation army. Militarily beaten in the field, the mad dog of imperialism can only turn to his own kind. We recall the recent meetings between Mubarak and Numayri at Aswan, in the presence of the bloodthirsty Habre. We also recall the recent visit to Khartoum by the American emissary Vernon Walters. It was then that Hissein Habre, with the support of American imperialism and the assurances given by Egypt and Sudan, tried unsuccessfully to attack Gouro. The attack resulted in a resounding military defeat for the FAN on 20 February. This confirms, as Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei said, the courage and the heroic determination of fighters of the national liberation army [NLA] to foil all plans by the United States, Sudan, and Egypt.

The NLA, through the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], which has a progressive orientation, Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei stated, will do everything in its power to drive the national annihilation forces from Ndjamena and to establish its authority over the entire territory because, he said, these reactionary forces, rejected by the people, are murdering and robbing the Chadians and are delighting in a blind leadership established as a system of government. All the (?elements) of the African peacekeeping force placed themselves in the service of Franco-American imperialism in order to favor the return of the FAN to Ndjamena. This is the reason why the GUNT, which incarnates the legitimacy of the Chadian people born of the Lagos accord and is the sole representative of our people, opposes this criminal organization in its effort to act for Chad in one way or the other. For the GUNT, Hissein Habre definitely remains a rebel.

It calls on European and African countries who support the puppet and reactionary clique in Ndjamena to rethink. To this end, the GUNT calls on the United Nations and the international press to visit the areas contolled by NLA in order to assess on the spot that only forces of the government headed by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei are effectively fighting against those of reaction. It was not any aggression from in Islamic legion. So, the false allegations in the statement made by the bloodthirsty Habre on Sunday, 3 April, are nothing but a subtle maneuver aimed at internationalizing the Chadian conflict.

GABON

BUDGET-TIGHTENING MEASURES ANNOUNCED 1 APR

AB021245 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Speech to the nation by Gabonese Prime Minister Leon Mebiane on 1 April outlining new government economic measures, in Libreville -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, the international economic situation has become so serious that authorities in each country have to take special measures to safeguard what has been achieved by eliminating the adverse effects that the crisis we are going through could have on our economies. In fact, the recent devaluation and reevaluation of currencies hit us very hard. The downward trend which has been threatening the world oil markets since 1981 has worsened further in 1982 due to a big drop in prices.

Our country, which is a full member of OPEC, has implemented the resolutions recently adopted in London and has made $29 a barrel instead of $34 the official price of its "mandui" crude, which constitutes the greater part of our crude oil production. The lowering of the official price of our oil has consequently caused a drop in revenue and created an imbalance in the state budget. Estimates already projected can no longer be obtained. Adjustments are, therefore, necessary in the budget in order to cover expenditures with reliable revenue. The government studied these adjustments by strictly adhering to the principles of financial discipline it has been pursuing for the past 5 years, and especially with a firm desire to continue the efforts aimed at reducing our foreign debts which [words indistinct] in the 1983 budget proposals. The aim of the studies carried out by officials of the Ministries of Finance and Economic Affairs and Planning is to find areas where cuts can be made in order to bring the total expenditure authorized under the budget to the same level as revenue to be collected in 1983. To this end, resorting to new borrowing was categorically excluded. These rigorous measures have, first of all, put into question again a number of projects which were scheduled to be launched in 1983 but that have not as yet been implemented. Thus, projects connected with the celebrations of our national independence in 1984 have been suspended. Other areas where money has been saved are work on administrative buildings, especially work scheduled to be made on the Presidential Palace and at certain embassies abroad; in national defense, in town planning, and in housing. The govenment has, however, maintained the expenditure envisaged for certain priority areas such as the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Public Health, and the economic infrastructure.

Concerning the recurrent budget, it has become necessary to exercise better control over expenditure on civil servants whose number is increasing at an alarming rate. That is why beginning this year, strict measures will be taken in order to stablize the total number of personnel in the civil service. New recruitments will be made according to the number of people retiring and this should be done as soon as those concerned reach the age limit.

Regulations for the housing of civil servants will be revised in a more (?restrictive) sense. Within a maximum period of 2 months, the minister of finance and economy will be required to take concrete measures aimed at making civil servants who enjoy government housing facilities pay part of the cost of the housing by a monthly deduction from their salaries. I must remind you that provisions to that effect appear in the 1981 budget, and we can no longer postpone its implementation because government expenditure on housing is becoming an excessive burden on the state budget. The same can be said about expenditures on transportation whose reduction should of necessity be sought. Strict control should be exercised on civil servants traveling by air and a drastic reduction in the number of trips abroad.

In the same way, measures will be taken to cut down on the number of scholarships. Conditions for the award of scholarships will be revised by adopting criteria that take into account the parent's income and the results obtained by the student enjoying this scholarship. Finally, subventions for products of basic necessity will be reviewed in order to gradually eliminate the large amount allocated to it this year in the state budget.

Companies Concerned Over Cuts

AB051600 Paris AFP in French 1425 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Libreville, 5 Apr (AFP) -- The financial austerity plan made public on Friday by Gabonese Prime Minister Leon Mebiane generated some concern on Tuesday among companies whose prosperity depends on contracts signed with the government. Projects being carried out and for which money has been voted, it was officially announced, will be implemented.

According to Mr Mebiane, this plan is aimed at cutting down drastically the expenditures of the state following the drop in oil revenues. With a production of 7.7 million tons, it is recalled, the petroleum sector alone constitutes 80 percent of exports and 65 percent of the Gabon's revenues.

According to the prime minister, running into a supplementary debt to make up for the drop in revenues "is categorically excluded" and the government hopes to save some money either by extending the completion period of some projects or by shelving some under the investment budget, thus saving about 10 billion CFA francs.

BENIN

KEREKOU LEAVES FOR LIBYA, GREEN BOOK SYMPOSIUM

AB062006 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] President Kerekou left Cotonou this morning for Benghazi, second largest city in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The head of state will participate in the first international symposium on the green book of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

CAPE VERDE

KAUNDA ENDS VISIT; PEREIRA COMMENTS ON RSA

AB061030 Paris AFP in French 0925 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Praia, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Cape Verdian President Aristides Pereira confirmed yesterday evening at the end of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda's 3-day visit to Cape Verde that Africa considers South Africa an "African country." Kaunda left Praia Tuesday morning.

Mr Pereira, who for the first time referred to South Africa as an "African country," did however emphasize that South Africa would have to end the apartheid system, which he stressed "is a permanent threat to the internal and external security" of the region. The Cape Verdian head of state also called for peace and prosperity in southern Africa based on a multiracial society and coexistance, on respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the region's states, and on mutually beneficial economic cooperation. Finally, Mr Pereira said he was optimistic about the Angolan-South African negotiations (sponsored by Cape Verde) which he said would produce "positive results."

On his part, President Kaunda appealed once more to the Western "contact group" on Namibia (France, Great Britain, Canada, United States, and West Germany), "to persuade South Africa to end its destabilization campaign in southern Africa and to accept UN Resolution 435 on Namibia's independence." According to informed sources, the talks between Presidents Aristides Pereira and Kenneth Kaunda were centered on the southern African situation and the OAU crisis. According to the same sources, the two heads of states also discussed the possibility of holding direct talks between South Africa and the frontline states.

NIGERIA

DEPORTATION OF 235 ALIENS FROM BORNO REPORTED

AB061816 Lagos NAN in English 1715 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Maiduguri, April 6 (NAN) -- All the two-hundred-and-thirty-five (235) aliens arrested last week had been deported, the assistant director of immigration in Borno, Alhaji Abdu Azare declared today in Maidugur. Speaking to the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) (?Azare said that) aliens would be prevented from coming into the country through Borno, adding my men are ready for them.

ANGOLA

UNITA CLAIMS CAPTURE OF TEMPUE IN COMMUNIQUE

AB061507 Paris AFP in French 1433 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Lisbon, 6 Apr (AFP) -- UNITA (the armed opposition to the regime in Luanda) announced on Wednesday in Lisbon that it has captured the locality of Tempue (in the south of the country) from government forces, after a 15-day siege. According to the communique issued by UNITA, 22 government troops were killed while retreating toward Cangamba (Moxico Province), during an ambush by UNITA elements on 4 April.

Jonas Savimbia's movement also stated that it "has totally liberated" this southern Angolan region, up to the area of the Benguela railroad which links the Altantic coast to Zaire.

PARTY BODY CONDEMNS REAGAN 'MANEUVERS'

AB061155 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The (Ngombota) Municipal Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party meeting in Luanda since the 2d of this month has published a motion of reprobation against racist South African aggression and demanded the immediate withdrawal of racist South African troops from the southern part of the Angolan Cunene Province. The participants condemned the maneuvers of the Reagan administration aimed at impeding the right of self-determination and national independence of the Namibian people. The participants called for unity and well-coordinated efforts within the ranks of the MPLA-Labor Party.

CUBAN TELEVISION REPORTS ON UNITA DEFECTORS

FL061945 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1550 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Report by correspondent (Teresita Segarra) from Luanda, Angola -- live relay]

[Text] Today I have some very interesting news from Luanda. To begin with, three of the eight individuals of the puppet and counterrevolutionary organization National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), who recently surrendered to Angolan authorities at Noqui in Zaire Province, have made statements to the press in Luanda.

(Boreiro), former frontline commander and former chief of staff of the ELNA, the military branch of the FNLA, stated that the CIA is supporting the organization he belonged to and said that he was convinced that the CIA will continue assisting its lackeys for a long time in order to destablize the People's Republic of Angola.

Another of the former commanders who surrendered to the Angolan authorities said that it is no secret that there are links among the FNLA, South Africa, and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and stated that 600 ELNA officers have recently joined the ranks of the South African military forces and formed the Buffalo Battalion. The unit is one of the means of cooperation between the puppet organizations FNLA and UNITA.

The three counterrevolutionaries referred to the disagreements now existing within the FNLA and said that after Holden Roberto left for some unknown place, certain officers created a military leadership whose leading figure is called (Alfonso Castro).

Regarding (Ngola Kapangu), another mercenary who is still carrying out counterrevolutionary activities against the sovereign state of Angola, they explained that he is still living in the Republic of Zaire.

When pressed by the newsmen to state their reasons for surrendering to the Angolan authorities, they replied that they had caused favorable reactions abroad, but that many of them are held back from surrendering by fear of reprisals in case they were discovered in such an attempt and by the false information they are given. They concluded by making an appeal to those who, through lack of information, are still in the forests engaged in terrorist activities against the peaceful population in the interior of Angola. All of us recall the atrocities committed by the FNLA against the Angolan people during the first and second national liberation wars. Since its foundation, that counterrevolutionary organization has been at the service of imperialism and it is known and proven all over the world that it maintains excellent relations with the organizations and regimes that are the most hated by all progressive people. The FNLA still is at the service of imperialist strategy and carrying out actions in north Angolan regions. In combination with the South African actions and the banditry of the UNITA, it is vainly trying to interrupt the Angolan revolution.

This is our report for today for our friends viewing the "Revista de La Manana" television program. We hope to be in contact with you again soon through that popular Cuban television program.

LESOTHO

DETAINEES ADMIT RECEIVING RSA TRAINING, ARMS

MB041318 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Among people arrested in Lesotho last week are those who had been given weapons of war by Captain (Louw) of Ladybrand, a former police commandant at the Caladon border post at Maseru. The detainees had been given strict instructions to intermingle and keep close to Basotho families and homes which kept political refugees, in particular those of the ANC, the main purpose being to murder them. Other detainees have described how they had been hired and trained by Major McKenzie of South Africa, who led the Ongeluksnek attack on Saturday, 26 March. Lesotho Government is making arrangements for these people to appear before the international press to relate the story about how and who has been hiring them or trained them and to disclose the real owner of Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) and its leadership.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian ambassador to Lesotho, His Excellency Mr Muhammad Basyuni, upon instructions of his government as a result of the latest border incident, flew into Maseru on Saturday afternoon, and yesterday he had discussions with the minister of foreign affairs, also responsible for planning, employment, and economic affairs, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana. The foreign affairs spokesman described the discussions between the minister and the ambassador as highly successful. It is believed that the minister took full advantage of the presence of the Egyptian ambassador to fully brief and to consult with him on other bilateral matters.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE FORCE DENIES SWAPO'S CASUALTY CLAIMS

MB061052 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] South Africa has denied a claim that SWAPO killed or wounded nearly 3,000 South African soldiers last year.

In a United Nations Council for Namibia report released yesterday SWAPO claimed it had killed or injured 2,855 South African soldiers. Now a Defense Force official in Pretoria has dismissed the allegations as totally untrue and ridiculous. He says the SWAPO headquarters and its backers are being, in his words, completely out of touch with reality.

JOHANNESBURG COMMENTS ON DEATH OF SWAPO FIGURE

MB061747 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The death of Peter Nanyemba, the head of SWAPO's military wing, PLAN, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, in a road accident, may be a greater blow to SWAPO than is being admitted by the organisation's leaders. But SWAPO's campaign of violence will probably continue. It is significant that Nanyemba died according to ANGOP, the Angolan official news agency, near the southern Angola garrison town of Kubango, which is the base of large contingents of Cuban and Angolan armed forces. It is situated about 350 km north of the South-West African border.

Nanyemba, who had the portfolio of defense secretary in SWAPO's Central Committee, was a leading member of SWAPO's Poliburo, and was the organization's number-two man after Sam Nujoma. It is clear that he was the man behind SWAPO's offensive launched in February to infiltrate south of the Red Line, which divides the northern black areas from the farming belt south of Pvambo-Kavango and the Kaoka Veld.

It was by far the biggest SWAPO had launched up till then. About 800 to 1,000 terrorists were engaged, comprising almost the full complement of SWAPO's specialist training base near Lubango. The SWAPO fighters who were trained there and are still being trained are regarded as forming the core of SWAPO fighting capabilities. From there, many are sent to the Middle East to be trained further by the PLO before returning to Angola.

The February-March incursion planned by Nanyemba was probably a desperate attempt to thwart any diplomatic progress for a settlement in the terrority. As commander of PAN, Nanyemba was totally and firmly commited to its military course, and he knew that he had the full backing of the Soviet and Cuban military planners. In fact, the Soviets wanted him to succeed Sam Nujoma as president of SWAPO. It is significant also that SWAPO terrorists who came into South-West Africa in February and March were wearing the uniform of the armed forces of Angola, FAPLA. They were carrying Soviet made equipment, indicating that SWAPO and FAPLA were continuing to use the same logistical infrastructure.

It is clear that Sam Nujoma's dictum will continue to apply after Nanyemba's death -- this is, that SWAPO are not fighting for majority rule, but are revolutionaries fighting to seize power.